STUDENT STABBED AT CITADEL HIGH SCHOOL, PG 3

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Celebrity Buzz



Director dishes on Twilight stars

pg 34

Nearly a quarter of Canadians have been vaccinated: Health official

Flu Outbreak

H1N1 The country's chief public health officer says almost one-quarter of Canadians have been immunized against swine flu.

Dr. David Butler-Jones says Canada is leading the world when it comes to the percentage of the population vaccinated.

He says that's why Canada has had so few deaths and serious cases of the virus so far.

Butler-Jones also says that despite initial shortages, vaccine shipments are now flowing well.

He says there will be several million doses available this week and plans are to ship another three million doses next week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News on the Move

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Sports pg 19



Pressure high for Yzerman

On the web
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RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Premier Darrell Dexter and Finance Minister Graham Steele answer questions from reporters during a press conference at One Government Place yesterday. Dexter said the province will not balance the budget next year and taxes will likely be raised.

Deficit dilemma

Premier says spending cuts, tax increases are likely

PAUL McLEOD
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There will be no balanced budget next year, while spending cuts and tax increases are likely, Premier Darrell Dexter conceded yesterday.

In a tough, hour-long press conference the NDP admitted meeting three of its main election promises — no spending cuts, no tax hikes, no deficit next year — is unrealistic.

"The easy thing to try and say is we'll allow economic growth to generate additional revenue and that will somehow fix the problem," Dexter said. "That is not going to happen."

Yesterday morning's statements were in response to an Economic Advisory Panel report on the province's finances released Friday, but the writing had been on the wall for some time. A Deloitte report this summer said the province is on pace to rack up $1.3 billion of debt by 2012-13.

Dexter defended his campaign promises yesterday, denying they were irresponsible.

"Remember that at the time of the election we had a government that was telling us we had a balanced budget," he said. "I think even on the coldest day in January nobody would have believed that the actual deficit would be over $1 billion."

The premier confirmed next year's budget will not be balanced, but said his main priority is to get the province quickly onto a sustainable path. He said not taking drastic actions would "be heaping billions of dollars of debt onto the shoulders of future Nova Scotians."

In January the province will begin broad consultation with Nova Scotians in order to create a multi-year fiscal plan.

Yesterday was a big "I told you so" moment for the Liberals. Party leader Stephen McNeil insisted throughout the election campaign the NDP's balanced budget promise was unrealistic.

"In order for this process to have any validity this government needs to come clean with Nova Scotians, to tell them that they mislead them during the campaign," McNeil said.

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 4

Crosby to carry torch through downtown

MONIQUE MUISE
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People hoping to catch a glimpse of Sidney Crosby carrying the Olympic torch tomorrow will likely need to camp out early.

It was announced yesterday the 22-year-old Cole Harbour hockey superstar will jog 300 metres along Brunswick Street in Halifax with torch in hand before handing it off to Olympic snowboarding hopeful Sarah Conrad, who will then light the cauldron in Grand Parade Square.



Sidney Crosby

Crosby is expected to receive the flame at the corner of Brunswick and Sackville streets around 6:50 p.m. With the multi-vehicle Olympic procession in tow, he'll run to the corner of Brunswick and Carmichael streets, then be picked up and whisked off to the World Trade Centre for a post-run media blitz.

Crosby is one of 12,000 people selected to carry the torch as it makes its way across every province and territory, eventually ending up back in Vancouver in time for the start of the 2010 Games.

The flame arrived in Nova Scotia yesterday morning, and is scheduled to pass through Antigonish, New Glasgow and Truro today.

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 8

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Local



Hedley tickets go on sale this Saturday

Canadian pop-rockers Hedley are returning to Atlantic Canada for three dates next year, including at the Halifax Metro Centre on April 16 at 6:30 p.m. The multi-platinum group from Vancouver is touring across Canada in support of a new album, The Show Must Go, which hits store shelves today. Special guests are Faber Drive, Stereos and Fefe Dobson. Tickets go on sale Saturday at 9 a.m. and will cost $39.50 each, plus service charges. Tickets are available at all Ticket Atlantic outlets, online at ticketatlantic.com or by phone at 451-1221. METRO HALIFAX

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N.S. Christmas tree on way to Boston

TRADITION Nova Scotia's Christmas gift to Boston has been cut and is on its way to Beantown.

Each year since 1971, the province has sent a Christmas tree to the people of Boston out of appreciation for their help during the aftermath of the Halifax Explosion.

This year's tree — a 15-metre white spruce belonging to Floyd and Elaine Shatford — was cut yesterday morning during a ceremony at their property in Fox Point, Lunenburg Co.

Chester RCMP members took part in the ceremony and escorted the tree to the highway.

The tree will serve as the focal point for the annual tree-lighting ceremony on Dec. 3 at the Boston Common.

METRO HALIFAX WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Student stabbed at school

Victim suffers non-life-threatening injuries; Cops seek teen

MONIQUE MUISE
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A student was stabbed during a fight at Citadel High School in Halifax yesterday morning.

According to Halifax Regional School Board spokesman Doug Hadley, the Grade 11 victim was entering the school just before 9 a.m. when he was attacked allegedly by another male student and stabbed with a sharp object, believed to be a knife. He was transported to hospital a short time later with non-life-threatening injuries.

Hadley said the alleged attacker is in Grade 10 at Citadel High. He is alleged to have quickly fled the scene, and no weapon was recovered.

"Police don't believe it's a random act," Hadley said. "In fact, they believe there was some type of incident — perhaps this past weekend — that spurred this."

Students exiting the building at lunch hour said there were rumours circulating through the school all morning that a fight had occurred, but the building was not locked down and teachers were not discussing the incident.

"Somebody texted me about it," said a student who gave his name as John. "I saw a bunch of cops out back, but I didn't know what was going on. There was a forensic car that showed up too."

John said there had been a few sporadic fights at the school in September, but things had "calmed down" in the past few weeks.

Police spokesman Brian Palmeter said students should be reporting ongoing disputes to police to prevent them from escalating into more violent behaviour.

"Without people talking to us and coming forward with information about these disputes, it really limits what we can do," he said.

He added they know the suspect they're looking for, but he hadn't been found as of late yesterday.

On Sept. 17, police were also called to Citadel High after a fight between a student and non-student resulted in the school being put in lockdown.

WITH FILES FROM PHILIP CROUCHER



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Students leave Citadel High during their lunch break yesterday. A Grade 11 student was stabbed earlier in the day during a fight at the school.

Officials announce vaccine guidelines for kids

Flu Outbreak

HEALTH Health officials in Nova Scotia are providing more information about the availability of the H1N1 vaccine for children.

Dr. Robert Strang, the chief public health officer, said yesterday healthy children aged three to nine years will need only one dose of vaccine.

But he said all children over six months and under three years of age, and children three to nine years who have immunity issues, will need a second dose.

Strang said the second dose should come a minimum of 21 days after the first dose, meaning the first children to be vaccinated three weeks ago will begin qualifying for a second shot today.

Children aged three to nine who have a chronic medical condition like asthma or diabetes, but who do not have immunity issues, will also need a second dose of vaccine.

However, Strang said it's safe for that group to receive the second shot after other at-risk groups.

"They will have developed good immunity from the first dose, and we know that it will last them a number of weeks. We'll get to those other kids over time as we get a more robust supply of vaccine."

Strang acknowledged that further sub-dividing existing groups could lead to confusion, and encouraged the public to log on to the Department of Health's website for clarification.

"We're also making sure our physician colleagues and front-line health workers have this information to walk the public through this process," he said.

MONIQUE MUISE/METRO HALIFAX, WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man charged after murder

CRIME RCMP in Nova Scotia have charged a Pictou County man with first-degree murder after a 30-year-old man was found dead outside a residence on Saturday.

Bernard Frederick Hartling, 35, is facing the charge in relation to the death of Kenneth Gregory McNamara.

McNamara's body was found Saturday lying outside his home in Central Caribou near Pictou.

Greg McNamara, the dead man's father, told CBC television news he couldn't understand why anyone would harm his son.

"We don't know why, we don't know why something like this would happen to him," he said after visiting the scene of his son's death.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Man charged after brief car chase

A 37-year-old Halifax man is facing several charges including fleeing police and possession of goods under $5,000 after an incident Sunday night on Connaught Avenue and Windsor Street. Police say they tried to pull over a vehicle because they suspected it was stolen and the result was a short pursuit. METRO NEWS SERVICES

No wage freezes, vows Dexter

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RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Premier Darrell Dexter gestures during a press conference at One Government Place yesterday. Dexter said he won't freeze the wages of government workers despite the province's financial woes.

Premier Darrell Dexter vowed yesterday not to enact wage freezes as he tries to drag the province out of deficit.

"We're not going to touch collective bargaining," Dexter said yesterday in response to Friday's Economic Advisory Panel's gloomy report of the province's finances.

Dexter said both tax hikes and spending cuts will be necessary for the province to get back into the black. But he rejected the ideas of wage freezes or slashing public sector employees.

"Frankly, in this province the public service has been stressed for some time," he said.

NSGEU president Joan Jessome said she is expecting a stormy season of negotiations. The province held government managers and community college teachers to one per cent annual raises this fall, and there were hints that could be a precedent.

Jessome said the one per cent figure has already popped up in some school staff negotiations. The province has 73 new agreements representing about 25,000 people to iron out before the end of the fiscal year.

"We pretty much have every single person we represent in one form or another at the bargaining table in the next six months," Jessome said. "I know what they're looking for and it's certainly not the one per cent.

"So we're going to have some friction at the table, there's no question about it."

Jessome said public service employees need to be paid fairly, even as governments run deficits.

"You have to pay for what you need," she said. "We're not talking an exorbitant amount. There's a perception out there public sector workers make a ton of money. They don't."

She also said there are areas other than wages the province and unions can work together on, including job security, pensions, and increased training.

Swift population crunch to hit economy, report warns

WORKERS Nova Scotia's population crunch is coming sooner than expected and it may have a dramatic impact on the local economy, a new report suggests.

According to a study prepared for the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies (AIMS), the province's population will likely continue to age and shrink rapidly over the next few decades. By 2046, the total number of people living in the province is expected to drop by about eight per cent, resulting in a loss of about 100,000 workers.

"We knew we were headed for trouble," said AIMS president Charles Cirtwill. "But this report shows the crunch is happening now, and we will continue to lose ground. We have to recognize that this will hurt our economy, our region, our future."

Despite the gloomy outlook, the authors of the study say the labour force has shown significant growth in the last 10 years, even as the population fell, which may help to diminish the impact of future losses.

METRO HALIFAX

News in brief

THEFT There was a rash of robberies in Fairview over 14 hours Sunday, three of which police believe could be linked. Police say TJ's Grocery on Main Avenue was robbed at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, then again at 8:45 p.m. that evening. Police don't believe they're related. However, they believe the person who robbed TJ's Grocery the first time may be the same person who held up the Hub General Store on Dutch Village Road at 6:25 p.m. Sunday. Then at 12:58 p.m., the same suspect is believed to have robbed a taxi driver by knifepoint at Rufus Avenue and Birch Street.

FIRE A mother and three teenage daughters are homeless after fire gutted their home yesterday afternoon in Wilmot, about five kilometres northeast of Middleton. There were no injuries and family's two dogs escaped the blaze unharmed. The fire is under investigation.

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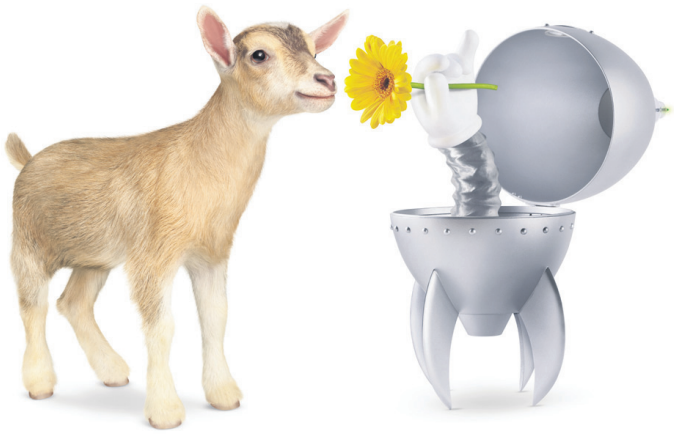
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Two face drug charges

Two Halifax men are facing drug charges after police arrested two men walking in the area of the 1600 block of Robie Street. Police say two officers were patrolling the area and noted two suspicious men, who they interviewed and later searched resulting in drugs being found. METRO HALIFAX

Baby death case delayed again

PAUL McLEOD
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For the fifth time, the court case of a young couple accused of causing life-threatening injuries to their newborn child has been delayed.

Defence lawyers for Ashiqur Rahman and Jane Gomes, both 23, asked for more time to look over evidence yesterday afternoon at Halifax provincial court. Rahman and Gomes are each facing one count of aggravated assault.

Both were arrested on July 23 after their seven-week-old daughter, Aurora Breakthrough, was sent to the IWK Health Centre in Halifax with serious injuries. She died four days later.

The case has been repeatedly delayed since the beginning. But that cycle should come to an end at the couple's next appearance in Halifax provincial court on Dec. 14. Election and plea is scheduled for that date, as well a bail hearing for Gomes.

In the meantime, the two have been remanded to the Burnside jail.

Both Gomes and Rahman made a brief court appearance yesterday. They sat next to each other showing little outward emotion. Rahman had shaved his head since his last appearance in mid-October.

Rahman and Gomes are originally from Bangladesh and were staying in Canada on student visas. Both studied Computer Science at Acadia University, but were living on Gottingen Street above Emporium at the time of the incident.



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Jane Gomes is escorted from a courtroom at Halifax provincial court in this file photo from last month.

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School bus leaves road, tips over

TRURO Three students and a driver were taken to hospital in Truro after a school bus went off the road near Stewiacke early yesterday.

The bus was passing a farm tractor, which was hauling a manure spreader about 7:30 a.m., "and they went onto the soft shoulder of the road and the bus just tipped onto its side," said Carolyn Peirce, spokeswoman for the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board.

Although specific details were not available regarding the individuals, RCMP Sgt. Al Affleck said none of the injuries were life-threatening.

A total of 16 students were on board when the incident occurred on Fort Ellis Road. The remaining students were examined at the scene by Emergency Health Services staff and transported to school by a second bus.

Local farmer Curtis Moxsom, who owns the tractor that was being passed when the accident occurred, blamed the mishap on soft shoulders created by the way the road has been graded by the Department of Transportation Infrastructure Renewal Department.

"There's no gravel in the centre of the road," he said. "DoT is not grading the gravel from the sides of the road, when they grade the road, into the crown in the centre. They're plowing it into the ditch."

TRURO DAILY NEWS

Metal concert rescheduled

SHOW A new date for the Megadeth and Slayer show was announced yesterday for Halifax.

The show titled Canadian Carnege featuring the two heavy metal rock bands is now taking place at the Halifax Metro Centre Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 6:40 p.m.

The show — part of a cross-Canada tour that also sees Testament take the stage — was originally scheduled for Nov. 9, but was postponed after Slayer guitarist Tom Araya suffered a back injury.

The same ticket series for the original show will be honoured for the new date. Those who can't make the new show date can obtain a refund until Dec. 14.

Tickets for the show are $64.50 each. METRO HALIFAX

Famous turtle coming to Rebecca Cohn in March
Tickets go on sale Thursday to see Franklin and the Adventures of the Noble Knights, which will be playing for two shows at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium on March 13 at 1 and 4 p.m. Tickets are $25 in advance and $30 on day of the show. METRO HALIFAX

One-man show 'head trip back to childhood'

Former MADtv comedian explores 7-year-old boy's relationship with an alcoholic father

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Eastern Front Theatre artistic director Scott Burke refers to the first play of its new season as a journey back in time into the mind of a child.

Described as a child's play for adults, Extinction Song from Cape Breton writer Ron Jenkins tells the story of the relationship between seven-year-old James and his alcoholic father, with the play coming entirely from the perspective of the son.

"The audience will really get an opportunity to get inside the head of a seven-year-old," Burke said of the play that premières tonight and runs through Nov. 29 at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia's Windsor Theatre in Halifax. "It's a real kind of head trip back to childhood for people."


Ron Pederson

The play unfolds over two days, with James insisting he was raised by wolves to escape his day-to-day reality. The one-man show is performed by Edmonton's Ron Pederson, a veteran theatre actor who also worked for three seasons on Fox's popular comedy show MADtv.

"It's a pretty important and meaningful story," Burke said. "It's about a child trying to cope with difficult circumstances, and the play itself is extremely imaginative in its writing, in its presentation, in its theatricality that we're able to bring to the small space at the art gallery."

There are two main stage plays on the Eastern Front calendar this season. The other is Lauchie, Liza & Rory, which will run April 6 to 18 at Bus Stop Theatre.

Also upcoming is the popular Super Nova Theatre Festival that will be held entirely at Neptune's Studio Theatre.

Last year, the company performed all of its plays out of Alderney Landing Theatre in Dartmouth.

Windsor Theatre

- Extinction Song runs tonight through Nov. 29 at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia's Windsor Theatre. For prices and show times, visit easternfronttheatre.com.



Be prepared this flu season

Have extra supplies on hand in case you, or a family member, become ill and aren't able to leave the house.

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More tips on caring for sick family members and information on home preparedness kits can be found at: *gov.ns.ca/H1N1*

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NOVA SCOTIA

Town halls open floor for policing concerns

The Halifax RCMP will be hosting a series of town meetings over the next month, beginning tomorrow night at 7 p.m. at the Porters Lake Community Centre. The meetings are a chance for community members to make note of concerns people might have for policing in the area. METRO HALIFAX

Halifax ready for torch

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VANCOUVER 2010 Games

The Olympic torch will spend an entire day in Halifax Regional Municipality tomorrow, and organizers say they're expecting big crowds to turn up.

Officials released a detailed schedule yesterday outlining the day's events, set to begin at 11:25 a.m. along the Shubenacadie Canal in Waverley. The flame will pass between two kayaks in the middle of the canal before heading on to North Preston for a quick lunch break at the Black Cultural Centre.

It will then snake through Cole Harbour, Dartmouth, and finally Halifax — making stops at the Dartmouth Peace Pavilion a 2:30 p.m. and Pier 21 at 5:50 p.m.

The last hour of the relay is expected to be the most widely attended, with hometown hockey hero Sidney Crosby carrying the torch around 6:50 p.m., and then passing it to Olympic snowboarder Sarah Conrad, who will light the community cauldron in Grand Parade at 7 p.m.

Conrad will then treat the crowd to a snowboarding demonstration on a platform constructed especially for the event.



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Gary Hollett poses for a photo with an Olympic torch outside city hall yesterday. Hollett will be running with the torch in Lower Sackville Friday.

Pictou County resident Gary Hollett said he'll be right in the thick of things, watching the torch's progress in anticipation of his own run with the flame when it returns briefly to Sackville Friday.

"In 1980, I was fortunate enough to be in the Lake Placid Winter Olympics as an on-ice official," Hollett said yesterday. "I saw this as an opportunity to meet an old friend … 30 years later."

The 63-year-old marathon runner and prostate cancer survivor said he's most looking forward to seeing his eight-year-old granddaughter, Sophie Rose, cheering him on.

'The whole Olympic spirit is captured in that flame'

GAMES Anne Keylor and her daughter Kelly Warner feel like a little piece of them will be in Vancouver this February after witnessing yesterday's 2010 Olympic Torch Relay through Cape Breton.

The Glace Bay residents saw the Olympic flame in their hometown and then travelled to Sydney for the community celebration event as the torch relay wound its way across the island, visiting 16 communities from North Sydney to Port Hawkesbury.

"(The torch relay) makes you part of the Games. I love it."
Anne Keylor

"The whole Olympic spirit is captured in that flame. (The torch relay) makes you part of the Games. I love it," Keylor said. "If you can't be there in Vancouver you can be there in spirit."

And Keylor and Warner weren't the only two feeling the Olympic spirit as thousands of Cape Bretoners lined streets and attended community celebrations to catch a glimpse of the flame which is making its way across Canada as part of the longest domestic torch relay in Olympic history.

Kim Simon of Milford was the first person to take up the torch in Cape Breton early yesterday morning near the Marine Atlantic ferry terminal in North Sydney. Simon's family, which included her mother Jessie Whalen, a native of Pleasant Bay, was there to cheer her on.

"I'm so excited, nervous excited, but really happy to be number one," said Simon, just moments before taking off down Purves Street in North Sydney.

From the Sydney region, the flame travelled to Baddeck, Wagmatcook, Whycocomagh, Waycobah, Mabou, Port Hood, Judique and Port Hawkesbury, where another community celebration was held last night. The flame travelled a total of 489 km yesterday, by car or in the hands of one of the 132 torchbearers. CAPE BRETON POST



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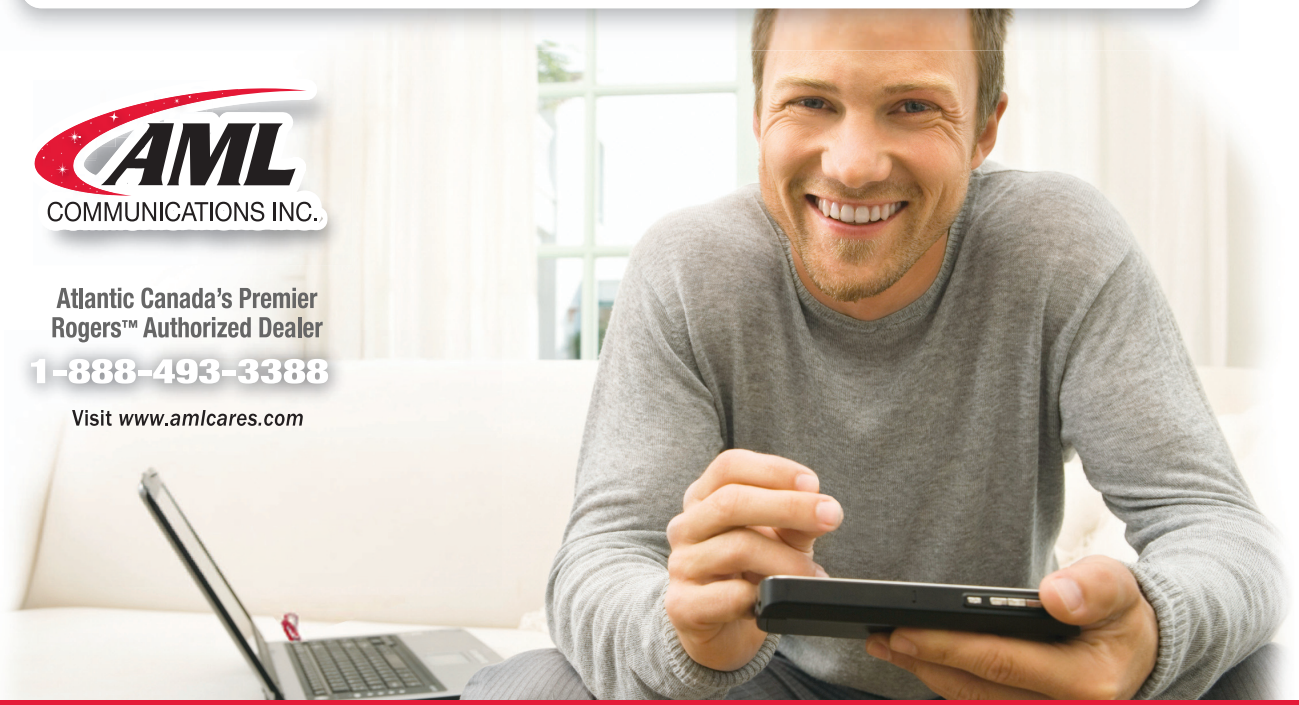
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Montreal mulls larger subway

A larger, more expensive order for new Montreal subway cars could be announced by the end of 2009, says the head of the city's transit authority. Yves Devin said it's up to the Quebec government to announce if the order will be larger than the original forecast of $1.2 billion for 342 cars. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada



Green boss recalls lessons of farm

The new leader of Ontario's Green party still hasn't forgotten the lessons he learned growing up on a Kansas farm four decades ago. After all, that small farm is where Mike Schreiner — the Toronto entrepreneur who was the only candidate at a leadership convention in London this past weekend — says his green principles sprouted. "I think every farmer knows that your prosperity is dependent on healthy soil and a healthy environment," said Schreiner. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada says it needs time to vet airline accord

AIR TRAVEL Canada says it needs more time, but seven countries and the European Commission have signed an airline liberalization policy statement.

Following a summit in Montebello, Que., the parties signed the multilateral statement that aims to ensure the financial sustainability of the global airline industry.

Signatories include the United States, Chile, Malaysia, Panama, Singapore, Switzerland and the United Arab Emirates, which represent about 60 per cent of global aviation traffic.

Canada was not among the signatories because it needed more time to evaluate the process, said Giovanni Bisignani, director general of the International Air Transport Association.

"This is an historic achievement that will help set the foundation for a financially sustainable global aviation industry," he said in a news release.

Bisignani said the policy statement sends a strong message and marks the beginning of a drive to develop a more liberalized airline industry.

The Montebello summit followed an inaugural meeting last year in Istanbul.

The policy principles aim to reduce national restrictions that prevent access to capital markets, restrict the ability to fly into countries, and set airline prices above market levels.

The 65 year-old bilateral system of air service agreements restricts how airlines can do business in ways that no other industry faces, he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Competition

- While most industries have a couple dozen large global competitors, there are more than 1,000 airlines around the world. National ownership requirements prevent mergers and the development of global players.

ADQ youth want boss gone

POLITICS He announced plans to quit after just 23 days on the job, but members of his party want him gone even sooner.

The Action democratique du Quebec's youth wing wants Gilles Taillon to leave immediately.

Junior members of the third-place Quebec party say it is in the best interests of the ADQ that Taillon leave by mid-week.

The youth wing passed a motion at a meeting Sunday calling for Taillon's departure, and has since made that letter public.

Taillon says he plans to stay until a replacement is chosen

But the youth of the party say Taillon erred when he accused the party establishment of plotting to derail his leadership after he had been in the job less than a month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper watches a dancer as he appears on Dance Premier League, a reality dance contest show, during a stop at television studios in Mumbai, India, yesterday. Harper is in India to promote economic relations between the country and Canada.

PM savours Bollywood glam

Harper praises Indo-Canadian partnership during India visit

Prime Minister Stephen Harper experienced the complexities and contradictions of India yesterday with a chaotic tour schedule that took him from the gritty and moving scene of a terrorist attack to Bollywood star power and the corridors of business power.

In a luncheon speech to a Mumbai investor audience at a posh hotel, Harper praised the long Indo-Canadian relationship and the huge Indian diaspora in Canada, while emphatically stating that more can be done.

"This South Asian tiger indeed has awoken, and the world is standing in awe," said Harper.

The prime minister later flew to New Delhi for talks with Indian government leaders.

It is Harper's first visit to India since he came to power almost four years ago. With critics complaining that his Conservative government has missed out on opportunities with an emerging economic superpower, Harper delivered an aggressive sales pitch that stressed both the work that's already been done and the promise of more.

"Let's do the math," Harper told the business luncheon audience.

"Between us, our combined GDP is well on the way to $4 trillion. Yet at the moment we are only doing $5 billion worth of business per year. Where we are today is not where we ought to be."

Harper recited all the links between India and Canada, including pluralistic parliamentary democracy, federalism and more than a million Canadians who claim Indian heritage.

He said both countries are emerging from the global economic downturn in good shape, and pitched Canada as a great place to invest."

Harper also visited the studios of Dance Premier League, a wildly popular reality contest show that includes several Indo-Canadian contestants.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Youth swing Sikh temple vote
A youth slate seeking a return to more traditional customs claimed victory in the election at the Guru Nanak Sikh Temple in Surrey, B.C. THE CANADIAN PRESS

No need to say sorry, says immigration MP

No apology forthcoming for abused migrant kids

Immigration Minister Jason Kenney says there's no need for Canada to apologize for abuse and exploitation suffered by thousands of poor children shipped here from Britain starting in the 19th century.

Australia has apologized for its part in the mistreatment of the so-called home children and the British government has announced it will issue a formal apology next year.

Kenney says he supports a private member's motion to declare 2010 the year of the home child, in remembrance of the "sad period" in Canadian history.

But he says there's limited public appetite for official government apologies for tragic events of the past and no demand for one in this particular case. From 1869 to 1939, an estimated 100,000 orphaned or abandoned youngsters were taken off the streets of Britain and sent to Canada and other former British colonies with the promise of a better life. Many were abused physically and mentally or put to work.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nova Scotia **Torch relay**



STEVE WARDEN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Special Olympian Lynette Sampson, of Sydney River, N.S., holds the Olympic torch high for a large crowd gathered at the Sydney waterfront for the start of the Cape Breton leg of the 2010 Vancouver Olympic torch relay, yesterday in Sydney.

Book accuses China of abuses

FALUN GONG A new book says China is still harvesting organs from Falun Gong prisoners for medical transplants.

The book by former Liberal MP David Kilgour and lawyer-activist David Matas, is an update of two previous reports they produced on the Chinese organ trade.

It says Falun Gong practitioners are held in labour camps by the tens of thousands and killed for their organs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

AIDS vaccine closer: Experts

HEALTH Researchers say they are closer than ever to finding a vaccine against HIV/AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) thanks to people who have had contact with the virus but haven't become infected.

Case studies were shared at a gathering of about 75 international experts in Winnipeg yesterday with the hope of getting another step closer to beating the virus that attacks the immune system.

Dr. Frank Plummer, director of Winnipeg's National Microbiology Laboratory, said he expects to see a vaccine in his lifetime.

"I'm confident that we will get there eventually," Plummer said. "It's not a simple problem. If it was, we would have done it already."

In September, researchers announced that a two-vaccine combination cut the risk of becoming infected with HIV by more than 31 per cent in a trial of more than 16,000 volunteers in Thailand.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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PAWEL DWULIT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Four-year-old Lucca Dyck plays with a V-Tech Light-Up Learning Camera while wearing a Creative Education of Canada Reversible Dragon/Knight Hood during the Canadian Toy Testing Council's 2010 award-winning toy press conference in Ottawa yesterday.

Season's top toys honoured

A colourful, peek-a-boo baby play centre, a tumbling top and a reversible costume set are among the top toys for 2010 chosen by the Canadian Toy Testing Council.

Most of the choices this year are educational as well as fun, says the council's Janet Heatherington.

"Obviously parents want to have toys that will educate kids and engage them, teach them good social values for example," she said.

"The kids, of course, they love just to play. What we found with our award winners this year is it was a great, great combination of educational value and just plain fun."

The battery-operated toy of the year is for babies aged six months to 18 months. It's called Songs 'N Smiles Sillytown and uses stacking blocks and a tumble-down slide.

Created by Fisher-Price, the multicoloured toy includes eight peek-and-pop action blocks and over 16 songs and goofy sounds.

One of the council's Best Bet awards for older kids, in the eight years-plus range, went to How To Draw Funny, a book that gives children tips on making comics. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

RESTRICTIONS Small airlines and flying schools are facing disruptions caused by air-traffic restrictions during the 2010 Winter Olympics and they're looking for compensation.

AUDIT A recently released audit shows Environment Canada is owed some $2 million, and roughly a third of the late payments are overdue by more than a year. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Palin speaks out about Levi Johnston on Oprah
Sarah Palin says it's "a bit heartbreaking" to see the road the father of her grandson has taken. The former Alaska governor and former Republican vice-presidential candidate appeared on yesterday's episode of The Oprah Winfrey Show, saying Levi Johnston is on a road that is "not a healthy place to be." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World



Greenpeace names new director

Kumi Naidoo, left, took over as director of Greenpeace yesterday, bringing experience honed as a teenage opponent of white rule in South Africa and a network of powerful contacts to the battle against global warming. Gerd Leipold, his predecessor at Greenpeace, said Naidoo's appointment is a watershed, both because he is the first African and because he is the first executive director to come from outside the organization. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama nudges China on freedoms

U.S. chief subtly criticizes host over Internet restrictions, human rights record

U.S. President Barack Obama sat down with the Chinese leader last night, hours after he pointedly nudged his host country to stop censoring Internet access, offering an animated defence of the tool that helped him win the White House — and suggesting Beijing need not fear a little criticism.



CHARLES DHARAPAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. President Barack Obama greets students yesterday at a town hall-style event in Shanghai.

The president's message during a town hall-style meeting with university students in Shanghai focused on one of the trickiest issues separating China's communist government and the United States — human rights.

"I think that the more freely information flows, the stronger the society becomes, because then citizens of countries around the world can hold their own governments accountable," Obama told students during his first-ever trip to China. "They can begin to think for themselves."

The first-term U.S. president and his delegation later arrived at the Forbidden City for Obama's third meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao, where trade and economic issues were expected to dominate. The two leaders then sat down for what was expected to be a lavish dinner behind the walls surrounding the ancient city that was once home to Chinese emperors. They were scheduled to meet again today.

Obama's message, aside from his proddings on human rights, was clear: Few global challenges can be solved unless the world's only superpower and its rising competitor work together.

He and his advisers have insisted in virtually all public utterances since he arrived in Japan on Friday: "We do not seek to contain China's rise."

Obama recognizes that a rising China, as the world's third-largest economy — on its way to becoming the second — and the largest foreign holder of U.S. debt, has shifted the dynamic more toward one of equals. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Great Firewall of China'

- Barack Obama talked at length about the Internet, which he said helped him win the presidency because it allowed for the mobilization of young people like those in his audience in Shanghai. China has more than 250 million Internet users and employs some of the world's tightest controls over what they see. The country is often criticized for having the so-called "Great Firewall of China," which refers to technology designed to prevent unwanted traffic from entering or leaving a network.

Rwandan genocide conviction overturned

TANZANIA A UN appeals court yesterday overturned the conviction of the former Rwandan president's brother-in-law, who had been sentenced to 20 years for organizing a massacre that left about 1,000 dead during the 1994 genocide.

The judge said that serious errors had been committed during Protais Zigiranyirazo's 2008 conviction and sentencing, and ordered him to be released immediately.

Zigiranyirazo, 71, stood in disbelief in the courtroom. "God is great and justice has been done," he told The Associated Press after the judge overturned the sentence.

At least 500,000 ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed during Rwanda's genocide, which began after President Juvenal Habyarimana's plane was brought down in April 1994. Many in Rwanda were disappointed with the court's decision.

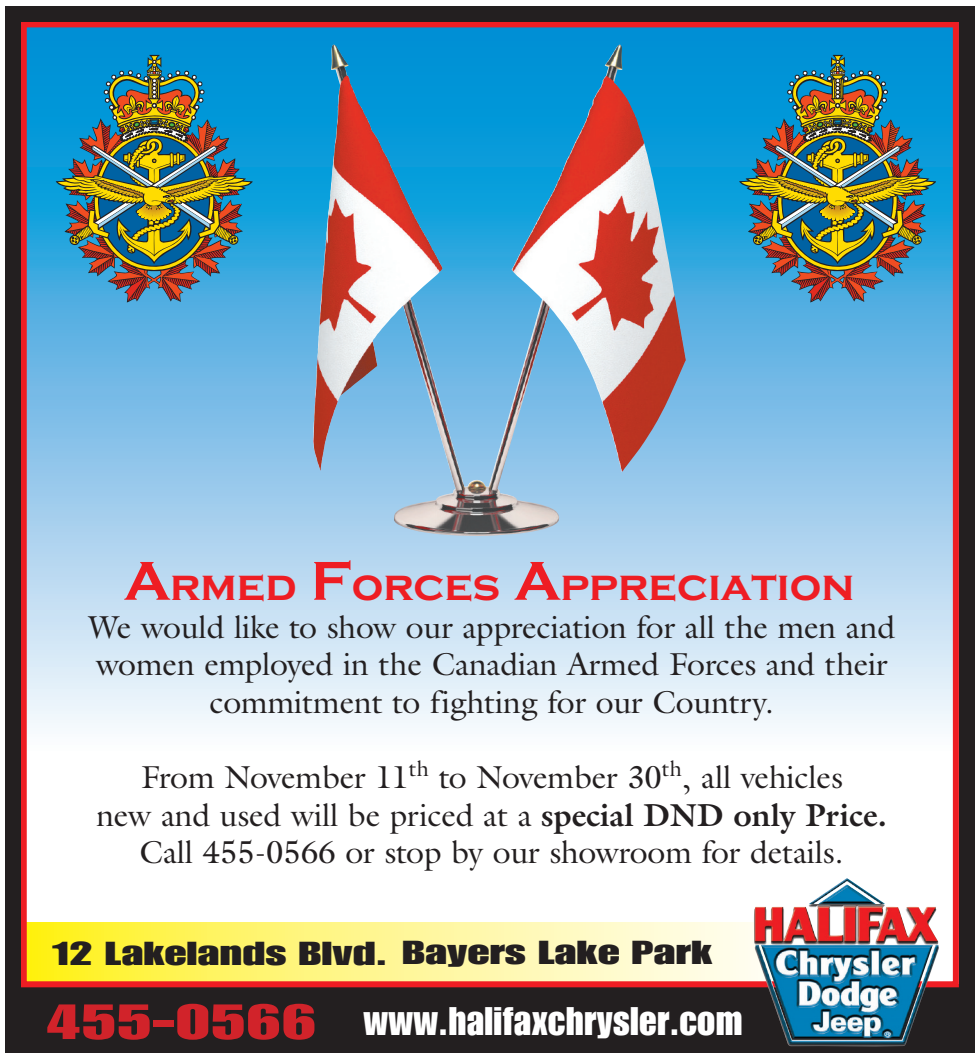
"It is a sad decision for all Rwandans who know what this man did. He is a member of Akazu — a group well known for its serious participation in the genocide," said Tharcisse Karugarama, Rwanda's justice minister and attorney general. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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News in brief

FISH Environmentalists yesterday said an international deal to reduce catches of Atlantic bluefin tuna didn't go far enough to protect the species from extinction. The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas limited 2010 quotas to 13,500 tons. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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France, Iraq sign deals
France laid the groundwork yesterday for deeper ties with Iraq, signing two deals with the country. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Twitter me this

Atlantis launches as 100 tweeps take it all in from up close

With 100 Internet-savvy NASA fans cheering on the shuttle and churning out constant Twitter updates, Atlantis sailed smoothly into orbit yesterday with six astronauts and a full load of spare parts for the International Space Station.

The supply run should keep the space station humming for years to come, and the shuttle astronauts in space for 11 days.

Atlantis was clearly visible as it shot through thin afternoon clouds, to the delight of Twittering space enthusiasts who won front-row seats to the launch.

The contest winners splashed news — mostly tweeting "wow" and "amazing" about the liftoff — over countless cellphones and computers in 140 characters or less.

"What's exciting to me is that they've captured the spirit and the excitement that we all feel, and they were able to capture it in a very few number of characters," NASA space operations chief Bill Gerstenmaier said with a chuckle.

"They're amazing, little, short statements about what they felt."

The space agency expects to keep the space station flying until 2015, possibly 2020 if President Barack Obama gives the go-ahead. During their 11-day flight, Hobaugh and his crew — including the first orthopedic surgeon in space, Dr. Robert Satcher Jr. — will unload the nearly 14,000 kilograms of equipment and experiments.

Most of the gear will be attached to the outside of the space station on storage platforms. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


JOHN RAOUX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Space shuttle Atlantis lifts off from the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., yesterday.

Fix-ups

- Atlantis will reach the space station tomorrow. NASA wants to stockpile as many pumps, tanks, gyroscopes and other oversize equipment as possible at the space station, before the three remaining shuttles retire next fall.

Memoirs of Mussolini's lover paint ugly picture

ITALY Benito Mussolini was a fierce anti-Semite, who proudly said that his hatred for Jews preceded Adolf Hitler's and vowed to "destroy them all," according to previously unpublished diaries by the Italian Fascist dictator's longtime mistress.

According to the diaries, Mussolini also talked about the warm reception he received from Hitler at the 1938 Munich conference — he called the German leader a "softy" — and attacked Pope Pius XI for his criticism of Nazism and Fascism.

On a more intimate note, Mussolini was explicit about his sexual appetites for his mistress and said he regretted having affairs with several other women.

The dairies kept by Claretta Petacci, Mussolini's mistress, between 1932 and 1938 are the subject of a book coming out this week entitled Secret Mussolini. Excerpts were published yesterday by Italy's leading daily Corriere della Sera. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Not what these models expected

ROME Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi hosted a soiree in Rome for some 200 young Italian women, but instead of the party they expected the women were given a lecture on Islam and copies of the Qur'an, a news report said yesterday.

A reporter for Italy's ANSA news agency went undercover with the women, who were hired for about $80 each by a modelling agency for the event Sunday.

Those accepted were taken to a villa, where Gadhafi lectured them on women's rights and religion, and urged them to convert to Islam.

"All the girls expected a party with a gala dinner," Lo Mele told her agency. Instead, "he made a 45-minute speech on Islam and women's role in Islam. It was a bit of an indoctrination session."

Lo Mele took pictures before and after the event, showing the women carrying Qur'ans they received as gifts.

Gadhafi was in Rome to attend a UN summit on world hunger. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man sentenced for sex tourism

NEW JERSEY A man who played Santa Claus at children's parties has been sentenced to nearly 20 years in prison for travelling to Thailand to have sex with boys. Wayne Corliss was captured at his New Jersey apartment in May 2008 after a worldwide manhunt led by Interpol. His arrest came two days after the agency took the rare step of asking for the public's help by releasing photos found on someone's computer. He pleaded guilty last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

High times for Harper

NationalReport
Lawrence Martin

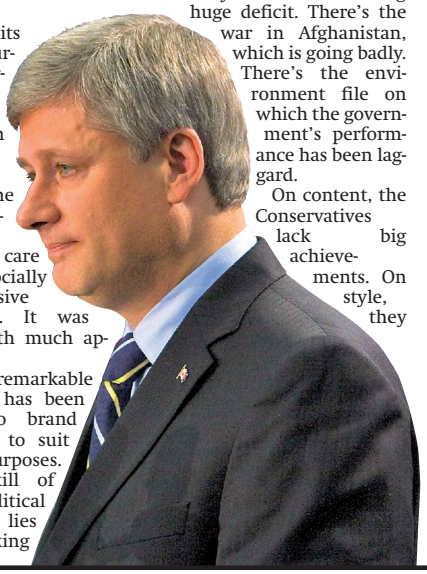
metronews.ca/nationalreport

Few could have predicted this — that a year after almost losing the government over his boneheaded budget update, Stephen Harper would be riding higher than ever.

A year ago, it looked that given his stumblings, given the oncoming recession, given the arrival of a new Liberal leader, this prime minister might be on his way out.

But here he is today with a big lead in the polls, a good showing in last week's byelections, his Liberal opposition reeling. He is defining the agenda to suit his conservative values. He is even scoring some points — who could have imagined his Beatles' song rendition? — in terms of personal appeal.

His conservative agenda — Stephen Harper's Canada — was stamped out in the revamped citizenship guide his government issued last week. It was heavy on pride in the Armed Forces, law and order, the monarchy, limits to cultural tolerance. It was light on gay marriage, the environment, health care and socially progressive content. It was met with much applause.



It is remarkable Harper has been able to brand Canada to suit his purposes. The skill of the political leader lies in making the people feel good about what's going on. On the face of it, Canadians don't have much to cheer about. They are not better off than they were four years ago. There's the recession and Ottawa's progress in fighting it is coming at a heavy cost — a looming huge deficit. There's the war in Afghanistan, which is going badly. There's the environment file on which the government's performance has been laggard.

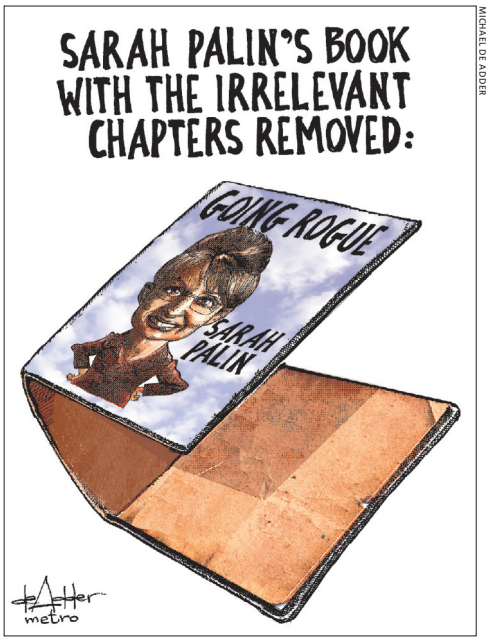
On content, the Conservatives lack big achievements. On style, they have been repeatedly criticized for their secrecy, heavy-handedness, one-man rule, all very much in contrast to its promise of a new era of transparency.

Their success is all the more surprising in that it bucks the trend to the south. In the United States, George W. Bush and Sarah Palin have tarnished the conservative brand. Barack Obama leads a liberal resurgence.

There's no such trend resurgence here. Here, Harper's conservatism is making Canadians feel good, or at least not dismayed, about what's going on. He's been lucky, helped along by the ineptitude of the Liberals. But in part, it's been the prime minister's craftiness that has made them appear that way.

Those of us who thought he would be on his way out by now were way off. He's on his way in. He may just be getting started.

Lawrence Martin is a journalist and author of 10 books who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Noteworthy

Free speech muzzled at Net freedom forum

United Nations officials forced free-speech advocates to take down a poster over its reference to China's web restrictions at an Internet conference focused on freedom, saying yesterday it violated a ban on posters at events organized by the world body.

The OpenNet Initiative, which focuses on Internet freedom around the world, had placed a banner at the Internet Governance Forum mentioning China's censorship of the web. UN officials said an unnamed delegation objected to the poster, and others objected to another flier from the group also relating to China.

"We have a no poster policy, be they commercial or political," Markus Kummer, the forum secretariat's executive co-ordinator, told The Associated Press.

He said the OpenNet Initiative had been granted a meeting room after officials were unable to accommodate its late request for an exhibition booth at the forum.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Irony

- Much of the Internet Governance Forum's focus was on the issue of freedom, as well as security and giving youth a greater voice in setting policy. That put the OpenNet banner issue in a particularly ironic light.

Worth mentioning

Scotch has been on rocks for 100 years

A beverage company has asked a team to drill through Antarctica's ice for a lost cache of some vintage Scotch whisky that has been on the rocks since a century ago.

The drillers will be trying to reach two crates of McKinlay and Co. whisky that were shipped to the Antarctic by British polar explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton as part of his abandoned 1909 expedition.

Whyte&Mackay, the drinks group that now owns McKinlay and Co., has asked for a sample of the 100-year-old scotch for a series of tests that could decide whether to relaunch the now-defunct Scotch.

Workers from New Zealand's Antarctic Heritage Trust will use special drills to reach the crates, frozen in Antarctic ice under the Nimrod Expedition hut near Cape Royds.



Al Fastier, who will lead the expedition in January, said restoration workers found the crates of whisky under the hut's floorboards in 2006. At the time, the crates and bottles were too deeply embedded in ice to be dislodged.

The New Zealanders have agreed to try to retrieve some bottles, although the rest must stay under conservation guidelines agreed by 12 Antarctic Treaty nations.

Fastier said he did not want to sample the contents.

"It's better to imagine it than to taste it," he said. "That way it keeps its mystery."

Richard Paterson, Whyte&Mackay's master blender, said the Shackleton expedition's whisky could still be drinkable and taste exactly as it did 100 years ago.

If he can get a sample, he intends to replicate the old Scotch and put McKinlay whisky back on sale.

"I really hope we can get some back here," he was quoted as telling London's Telegraph newspaper.

"It's been laying there lonely and neglected. It should come back to Scotland where it was born.

"Even if most of the bottles have to remain in Antarctica for historic reasons, it would be good if we could get a couple," Paterson said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

We Know What You're Thinking



45% The number of Canadians who would rather watch a movie at home than go to the theatre.

IPSOS REID

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Danone to buy back up to 1.25 billion in bonds to cut debt servicing costs
Danone SA, the bottled water and dairy goods producer yesterday launched a cash offer to buy back up to 1.25 billion of its bonds to cut interest charges and lower debt. The Paris-based company said the offer is scheduled to run to Nov. 24. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

DOLLAR	GAS	OIL	TSX
US 95.50¢	US $4.61	US $78.90	11,512.26
US 0.31¢	US 22.2¢	US $2.55	104.58

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

CRTC should rein in cable: CTV

Canada's largest private broadcaster says the CRTC should again get into the business of regulating television cable and satellite firms.

CTVglobemedia has opened controversial hearings on so-called "fee-for-carriage" by blasting cable companies for threatening to raise rates to consumers if they are forced to pay for over-the-air signals.

Officials with CTV argue cable companies had a free ride for 40 years in being able to carry signals for such stations as CTV and CBC and the time has come for them to pay for the service.

Cable and satellite firms say if they are forced to pay, they will pass on the charge, which could be as much as $10 a month, to consumers.


SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

President and CEO of CTVglobemedia Ivan Fecan takes part in the CRTC hearings in Gatineau, Que., yesterday.

But CTV executives Ivan Fecan and Paul Sparkes told the CRTC the cable firms can easily afford to absorb the costs, saying since they were deregulated, cable firms have instituted fee hike after fee hike at whim.

They say the CRTC could rein in the cable firms by ordering them to carry a basic TV service at a cost the regulator would set.

Commission chairman Konrad von Finckenstein said the hearings would establish the ground rules for the long-term viability of Canadian television.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Actors say attach Canadian content strings

- Members of the ACTRA union say cable firms are in position to absorb the added costs of paying over-the-air networks like CTV, CBC and Global for their signals.
- But ACTRA union head Ferne Downey says the broadcasters also should not be allowed to keep about $350 million the fee-for-carriage is likely to bring so they can pay more for expensive U.S. shows.
- ACTRA says the CRTC must demand that broadcasters invest at least six per cent of gross revenues on Canadian dramas and comedies.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Housing sales up

HOUSING MARKET Canadian home resales improved 41.5 per cent year over year to 42,288 units in October, a record for the month, according to the Canadian Real Estate Association.

The national average price for homes listed on the Multiple Listing Service also reached a new high in October at $341,079. This was 20.7 per cent higher than the same time last year.

New sales records for the month were reported in one-fifth of local markets, including Ottawa.

The sharp rise in demand for homes has shrunk inventories to 194,994 or a seasonally adjusted 4.1 months worth, the lowest level in more than two years and 20.8 per cent below the peak reached a year ago. This is the sixth month in a row in which inventories are down from year-ago levels.

Seasonally adjusted new listings on MLS were slightly higher in October compared to September at 65,148 units. New listings peaked in May 2008, then declined until March 2009, and have remained relatively steady since then.

"New listings are still expected to rise in the coming months in response to headline average price increases," stated CREA chief economist Gregory Klump.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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In brief

REPORT Manufacturing sales rose 1.4 per cent in September to $41.7 billion, largely reflecting increases in the motor vehicle industry. Statistics Canada reports manufacturing sales have increased in three of the past four months after dropping to a recent low of $38.5 billion in May. Despite the recent gains, sales remained 18.6 per cent below September 2008 levels. Constant dollar manufacturing sales rose 1.8 per cent in September. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bank should have kept better tabs: Lawyer

HEARING The lawyer for a woman who is suing Scotiabank over alleged unpaid overtime says the bank was loose with its record keeping when it came to extra work hours.

Louis Sokolov told an Ontario court hearing the class-action lawsuit that Scotiabank's head office policy and the actual procedure on overtime at local branches was at odds, resulting in many employees working hours they weren't being paid for.

Plaintiffs

- The suit, filed in 2007, includes any full-time sales staff who worked at bank's retail operations after 2000.

Sokolov is representing Cindy Fulawka, who is heading the suit against the bank for about 5,000 employees working as personal or senior bankers, financial advisers and account managers for small businesses.

Sokolov told the court that his client is one of few Scotiabank branch employees with the ability to make a direct claim against the bank. He says many Scotiabank workers would not pursue claims against their employer for fear of repercussions.

A lawyer for the bank refuted those claims, and will present his case Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



JOHN AMIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Investors take their seats at a Coca-Cola conference yesterday in Atlanta. The world's largest soft drink maker told analysts and investors its systemwide revenue will reach $200 billion by 2020.

Coke predicts $200B by 2020

SALES Coca-Cola Co. seeks to double its business in the next decade as it caters to the expected billion people worldwide who will join the middle class by 2020.

The world's largest soft drink maker told analysts and investors at a meeting yesterday its systemwide revenue will reach $200 billion US by 2020. The company hopes to make more money as it sells more soft drinks in emerging markets and reduces costs.

CEO Muhtar Kent said sales have doubled in the decade since 1997, and they'll do so again because of growth in countries like India and China.

The company hopes global growth can make up for weak domestic sales, which have been slipping as consumers limit their spending in the recession and switch to juices and teas.

Kent said the company must pay attention and react to changes in the world, which it didn't do from 2000 to 2004.

"We were too busy looking at the dashboard in front of us and not sufficiently paying attention to the world outside our windshield," he said.

The company believes the world will be a different place in the next decade, with more consumers in the middle class.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

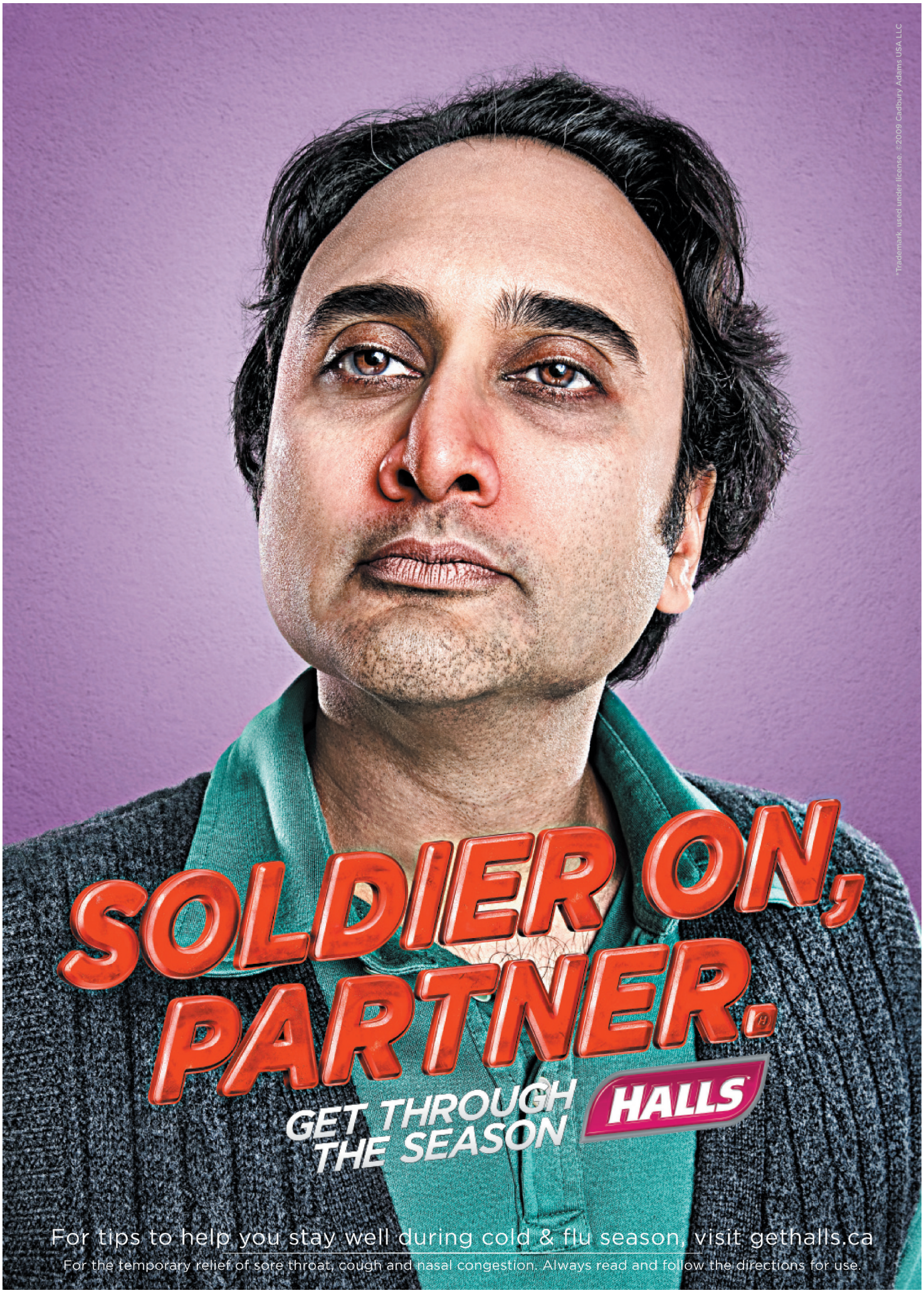
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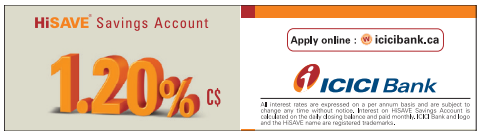

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For the temporary relief of sore throat, cough and nasal congestion. Always read and follow the directions for use.
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Interest rates/Savings accounts (Please check bank websites as some rates require minimum account balance)

BMO	CIBC	HSBC	ICICI	ING	PCF	RBC	SBIC	Scotia	TD
1.00%	0.75%	0.80%	1.20%	1.05%	1.00%	0.75%	1.25%	1.00%	0.75%

Your Money

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA



Clear credit card debts

MoneyMatters



Q I have thousands invested in shares. I also have a large balance on my credit cards but always make the minimum payment. I have read that it is important for me to pay off my credit cards first. Why? I would have no investments with this approach and therefore, have little for retirement.

— Amir

A Investing for your future is more than holding stocks. An investment objective should be to increase your net worth year over year but not lose sight of long term goals.

You would increase net worth (assets less liabilities/debt) faster if you paid off debt before buying shares. Some critics may argue that buying shares could give better returns than the interest paid on the debt. That's a possibility, but "could" comes with unknowns and risk. Your returns are not guaranteed, as demonstrated by the past year. Paying down debt is a guaranteed increase in net worth. When you eliminate debt, you increase net worth and cash flow for future investment. Only then, look at buying into the market.

Debt elimination is not as colourful as forecasting the next oil or IT darling but it gives results.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA, can be reached at choochonghcga@yahoo.ca and 416-485-5225.

Warranties yield gold

AlisonOnMoney



A couple of months ago I got fed up with the fraying and splitting rubber sleeve on the foaming wand of my Breville espresso machine and called up the manufacturer to complain. A sweet lady apologized and said she'd send a replacement out right away by courier. Free, no less.

That easy and satisfying solution got me thinking about all the times I've benefited from warranties, sometimes unexpectedly.

A few years back, I took my collection of Henckel knives into a free sharpening clinic. One of my favourites had the point broken off after some unauthorized workshop surgery done by my husband years earlier. Even though I confessed to my spouse's crime the manufacturer's representative took one look at it, furrowed his brow as if the knife was at fault and said, "That shouldn't happen." Voilà, a brand new implement.



On another occasion we ordered a replacement for our Frigidaire fridge, by then a year or so past the warranty. When the repairman delivered it he noticed a crack on the plastic base of the fridge and said, "I think that that's a new fridge." We were stunned when a new one showed up a couple of weeks later. We had forgotten that there was a 20 year warranty on the liner.

Similarly, Obus Forme replaced the back and seat of a 10-year-old office chair. Again, we'd forgotten those parts carried a lifetime part guarantee.

Almost everything we buy, from vice grips to light bulbs, has some kind of guarantee attached and sometimes manufacturers will even replace items after the warranty has expired — you won't know until you ask.

Alison's Money Rule:

- Product warranties are like gold nuggets buried in the ground — you just have to dig them up and put them to good use.

Yes, some manufacturers don't stand behind their product but my experience is that mostly they do, especially those located in Canada or the U.S. Mining your warranties can pay off in thousands of dollars of replacement items over the years.

Now, if I can just find the lifetime warranties on all the garden hoses I've bought over the years.

Alison Griffiths is a financial journalist, author and host of Maxed Out on the W Network. Write to her at alison@alisongriffiths.ca.



Mercedes buys Brawn GP

Mercedes-Benz is taking over Formula One champion Brawn GP and plans to end its stake in McLaren.
Mercedes-Benz said yesterday that Brawn would race in 2010 as the Mercedes GP team. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports



Rodman detained in Germany

Former NBA star Dennis Rodman, left, was temporarily detained in Germany after a hotel said he skipped out on a $5,100 US hotel bill. Organizers of an exhibition game in the town of Trier had agreed to pick up the tab for Rodman's hotel, but not an additional $5,100 for beverages consumed at a party he held there. Rodman later paid the bill along with an additional $2,500 to dismiss possible legal proceedings. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Pressure mounting for Yzerman

The coming weeks will be difficult for Team Canada boss, says Gretzky

Wayne Gretzky remembers this critical period before the Olympics well.

He was executive director of Canada's men's Olympic hockey teams in both 2002 and 2006.

Steve Yzerman, his 2010 successor, and Yzerman's coaching staff will choose the next 23-player team and unveil it to Canadian hockey fans Dec. 31.

Canada opens the 2010 Games against Norway on Feb. 16 in Vancouver.

"The next eight weeks is probably the most difficult because up until that point in time, you really have a list of 40 or 45 names," Gretzky said yesterday in Calgary at a corporate hockey camp for children.

"It starts to narrow down pretty quickly. What becomes the challenge, or the trickiness behind it, is that there is a lot of attention paid to who should be on the team and who shouldn't be on the team."

Gretzky was the mastermind behind Canada's gold medal at the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City, which was the country's first in 50 years.

His 2006 squad was not as successful as the Canadians lost 2-0 to Russia in the quarter-finals.

He believes the pressure on Yzerman, who played for him in 2002, to make the right choices will be even greater than what he experienced in the previous two Games.



JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wayne Gretzky, right, goes through drills with 15 children from across the country at a corporate hockey camp for kids in Calgary, yesterday.

"You've really got to believe each person you select is going to contribute to winning a gold medal," Gretzky said.

"This is the time of year that gets very serious for the management and the coaching staff to make sure they select the right guys for this team. There's always a lot of pressure on the Canadian hockey team.

"Obviously, being in Vancouver, the pressure on this team is probably going to be even greater than it's been on teams in the past."

"Obviously, being in Vancouver, the pressure on this team is probably going to be even greater than it's been on teams in the past."
Wayne Gretzky

For the first time in years, Gretzky is not involved with either an NHL or Olympic team. But that's not necessarily a bad thing.

"When you're there participating (in the Olympics), your focus is really the games itself and the practices ... Now that I'm not really involved, I can go up and enjoy all the events with my family."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Herd goalie nabs honour

QMJHL Mathieu Corbeil has done it again.

The Halifax Mooseheads goaltender collected his second consecutive QMJHL defensive player of the week honour yesterday after backstopping his club to a pair of victories on the weekend.

Corbeil, 18, was the first star in Friday's 2-1 win over the Moncton Wildcats, stopping 36 shots, and was solid in a 32-save 4-1 victory over the Baie-Comeau Drakkar on Saturday.

METRO HALIFAX

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Ronaldo back with Madrid

Cristiano Ronaldo returned to regular training with Real Madrid yesterday as part of his recovery from a serious ankle injury. Ronaldo injured his right ankle on Sept. 30 but hasn't played since aggravating the problem while playing for Portugal on Oct. 10. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lesnar's UFC career may be in jeopardy

Ailing heavyweight champ may never fight again, UFC boss says

Ultimate Fighting heavyweight champion Brock Lesnar's fight career could be in jeopardy due to an intestinal illness that will require surgery, according to mixed martial arts impresario Dana White.

UFC president White told the TMZ website yesterday that Lesnar was "very, very sick" with an intestinal disorder that will require surgery, and that he will try to get the beefy 32-year-old admitted to Minnesota's Mayo Clinic. White said Lesnar, who was diagnosed with mononucleosis earlier this month, collapsed a week ago at his Canadian vacation property and has since been hospitalized.

"There's a possibility Lesnar will never fight again," White told TMZ. Lesnar, who is 6-foot-3 and 265 pounds and has an outsized personality to match, has not been heard from for three weeks. He was to defend his heavyweight belt in January against Shane Carwin, but that bout, already rescheduled once before amid rumours that Lesnar had contracted the H1N1 virus, has again been put off.

"He's got mono and he's got something else wrong with him," White said Saturday after UFC 105 in Manchester, England. "I know what's wrong with him, he just doesn't want me talking about it. He doesn't have cancer or AIDS or anything like this, (but) he's got some problems, man.



JOHN LOCHER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UFC fighter Brock Lesnar, pictured in a fight earlier this year, will require surgery for an intestinal disorder.

"He went up to Canada just to get away from his house, to go up there and just kind of chill out up there. He dropped. He went down, and he had to go to hospital. They ran every test on the planet on him and they ended up finding something else was wrong with him."

"I know what's wrong with him, he just doesn't want me talking about it. He doesn't have cancer or AIDS or anything like this, (but) he's got some problems, man."
Dana White, UFC president

Calls to Lesnar's agents and an email message to White for further comment were not returned.

Lesnar, a South Dakota native who went to the University of Minnesota and won the 2000 NCAA wrestling championship, has gone through a number of career turns, including professional wrestling and a failed try at the NFL with the Minnesota Vikings. At 30 he joined the UFC and won the heavyweight title a year ago, beating Randy Couture. Lesnar has won four of five bouts and become a major UFC gate attraction in the process.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

QMJHL all-stars take Super Series opener

HOCKEY Gabriel Bourque scored the eventual winner as the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League all-stars won the opening game of the Super Series against the Russian Selects 3-1 last night.

The Baie-Comeau winger scored the second of three consecutive QMJHL goals in the second period.

Philippe Cornet of the Rouyn-Noranda Huskies scored 11 seconds into the period, followed by Bourque at 7:25 and rounded out by Michael Kirkpatrick's power-play goal just over a minute and a half later for a 3-0 nothing lead.

Maxim Karpov responded for the Russian Selects midway through the second.

Despite the loss, Russian goaltender Alexander Zalivin was outstanding with a 53-save performance.

Jake Allen of the Montreal Junior took the win, combining with Olivier Roy of the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles for 21 saves.

The Selects and QMJHL all stars will meet again tomorrow in Shawinigan, Que., before the annual six-game series heads to the Ontario Hockey League and then the Western Hockey League.

Canada has won the previous six series against Russia with an overall record of 30-6 and a scoring margin of 169-74.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

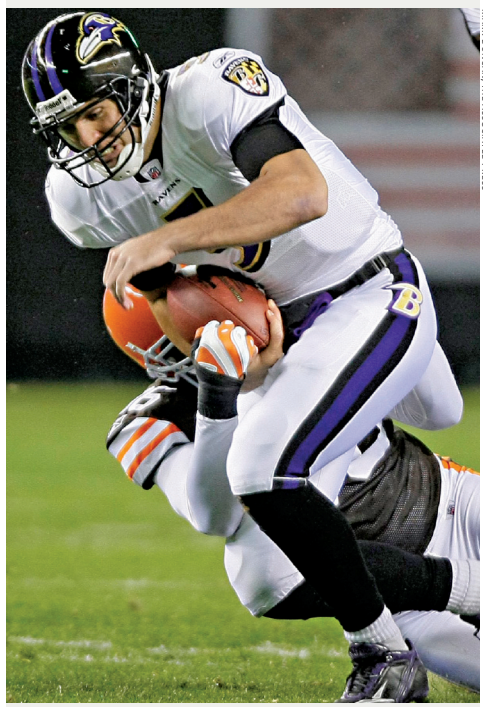
Sports in brief

OVECHKIN Two-time reigning league MVP Alex Ovechkin appears set to return from his injury layoff when the Washington Capitals visit the New York Rangers tonight.

BASEBALL Florida Marlins outfielder Chris Coghlan is the National League Rookie of the Year, and Oakland Athletics closer Andrew Bailey is the AL winner. Coghlan edged Philadelphia Phillies pitcher J.A. Happ in a close race, while Bailey, an all-star in his first major league season, was selected first on 13-of-28 ballots and finished with 88 points.

BASKETBALL The Golden State Warriors have found a home for disgruntled guard Stephen Jackson, sending the guard to Charlotte in a four-player deal. The Bobcats announced yesterday they acquired Jackson and guard Acie Law for guard Raja Bell and forward Vladimir Radmanovic. METRO NEWS SERVICES

NFL Downed by a Brown



MARK DUNCAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Baltimore quarterback Joe Flacco is sacked by Cleveland linebacker David Bowens last night in Cleveland as the Browns hosted the Ravens. **For a complete game recap, visit metronews.ca/sports**

NFL fines Titans owner $250K

FOOTBALL The NFL has fined Titans owner Bud Adams $250,000 US for making an obscene gesture at Buffalo fans while celebrating Tennessee's victory over the Bills.

Commissioner Roger Goodell notified Adams of the fine yesterday, and league spokesman Greg Aiello said it is for conduct detrimental to the NFL. Adams was seen making the gesture while in his luxury suite and again on the field after Sunday's 41-17 victory.

Adams, 86, issued an apology a couple of hours later, saying he got caught up in the excitement of the moment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	PT
d-New Jersey	19	14	5	0	28
d-Washington	20	12	4	4	28
d-Buffalo	17	12	4	1	25
Pittsburgh	21	14	7	0	28
Philadelphia	17	11	5	1	23
NY Rangers	20	11	8	1	23
Boston	20	9	7	4	22
Tampa Bay	18	8	4	6	22
—					
Atlanta	17	10	6	1	21
NY Islanders	21	7	7	7	21
Ottawa	17	8	6	3	19
Montreal	20	9	11	0	18
Florida	18	7	9	2	16
Toronto	18	3	10	5	11
Carolina	19	3	12	4	10

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	PT
d-San Jose	22	14	4	4	32
d-Colorado	20	12	5	3	27
d-Chicago	19	12	5	2	26
Los Angeles	22	13	7	2	28
Calgary	18	12	4	2	26
Columbus	19	11	6	2	24
Detroit	18	10	5	3	23
Phoenix	20	11	9	0	22
—					
Dallas	19	8	5	6	22
Vancouver	21	11	10	0	22
Nashville	18	9	8	1	19
Edmonton	21	8	10	3	19
St. Louis	18	6	8	4	16
Minnesota	20	7	11	2	16
Anaheim	19	6	10	3	15

YESTERDAY

Columbus 3 Edmonton 2 (SO)
Boston 4 N.Y. Islanders 1
Philadelphia 3 New Jersey 2
Pittsburgh 5 Anaheim 2
Los Angeles 4 Florida 3 (SO)
Tampa Bay 4 Phoenix 1

TODAY

Toronto at Ottawa
Washington at N.Y. Rangers
Carolina at Montreal
San Jose at Nashville
Colorado at Calgary

d - division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points.

NFL

AFC

EAST

	W	L	T	PCT
New England	6	3	0	.667
Miami	4	5	0	.444
N.Y. Jets	4	5	0	.444
Buffalo	3	6	0	.333
SOUTH				
	W	L	T	PCT
Indianapolis	9	0	0	1.000
Jacksonville	5	4	0	.556
Houston	5	4	0	.556
Tennessee	3	6	0	.333
NORTH				
	W	L	T	PCT
Cincinnati	7	2	0	.778
Pittsburgh	6	3	0	.667
Baltimore	4	4	0	.500
Cleveland	1	7	0	.125
WEST				
	W	L	T	PCT
Denver	6	3	0	.667
San Diego	6	3	0	.667
Kansas City	2	7	0	.222
Oakland	2	7	0	.222

NFC

EAST

	W	L	T	PCT
Dallas	6	3	0	.667
Philadelphia	5	4	0	.556
N.Y. Giants	5	4	0	.556
Washington	3	6	0	.333
SOUTH				
	W	L	T	PCT
New Orleans	9	0	0	1.000
Atlanta	5	4	0	.556
Carolina	4	5	0	.444
Tampa Bay	1	8	0	.111
NORTH				
	W	L	T	PCT
Minnesota	8	1	0	.889
Green Bay	5	4	0	.556
Chicago	4	5	0	.444
Detroit	1	8	0	.111
WEST				
	W	L	T	PCT
Arizona	6	3	0	.667
San Francisco	4	5	0	.444
Seattle	3	6	0	.333
St. Louis	1	8	0	.111

SUNDAY

Arizona 31 Seattle 20
Carolina 28 Atlanta 19
Cincinnati 18 Pittsburgh 12
Green Bay 17 Dallas 7
Jacksonville 24 N.Y. Jets 22
Kansas City 16 Oakland 10
Miami 25 Tampa Bay 23
Minnesota 27 Detroit 10
New Orleans 28 St. Louis 23
San Diego 31 Philadelphia 23
Tennessee 41 Buffalo 17
Washington 27 Denver 17
Indianapolis 35 New England 34

YESTERDAY

Baltimore at Cleveland

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	8	3	.727	-
Toronto	5	5	.500	2.5
Philadelphia	4	6	.400	3.5
New York	1	9	.100	6.5
New Jersey	0	10	.000	7.5
SOUTHEAST DIVISION				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Atlanta	9	2	.818	-
Miami	7	2	.778	1
Orlando	8	3	.727	1
Charlotte	3	7	.300	5.5
Washington	2	7	.222	6
CENTRAL DIVISION				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Cleveland	7	3	.700	-
Milwaukee	5	3	.625	1
Indiana	4	3	.571	1.5
Chicago	5	4	.556	1.5
Detroit	5	5	.500	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Dallas	8	3	.727	-
Houston	6	4	.600	1.5
San Antonio	4	4	.500	2.5
New Orleans	3	8	.273	3
Memphis	2	8	.200	5.5
NORTHWEST DIVISION				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Denver	7	3	.700	-
Portland	8	4	.667	-
Oklahoma City	5	5	.500	2
Utah	4	6	.400	3
Minnesota	1	10	.091	6.5
PACIFIC DIVISION				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Phoenix	9	2	.818	-
L.A. Lakers	7	3	.700	1.5
Sacramento	5	4	.556	3
L.A. Clippers	4	7	.364	5
Golden State	3	6	.333	5

YESTERDAY

Atlanta 99 Portland 95 (OT)
Orlando 97 Charlotte 91
Dallas 115 Milwaukee 113 (OT)

TODAY

Toronto at Denver
Golden State at Cleveland
Indiana at New Jersey
Oklahoma City at Miami
L.A. Clippers at New Orleans
Phoenix at Houston
Chicago at Sacramento
Detroit at L.A. Lakers

Did you know?
For the first century and a half of Halifax's history, the area of the West End was occupied by small farms and country estates. WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Your Neighbourhood:

West End



First airport

The West End was developed in the 1870s. In the 1920s, Chebucto Field, the first airport in Halifax, was built near Connaught and Chebucto Road. WIKIPEDIA.ORG

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Mosque to open in 2010

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

The West End is getting younger and more densely populated, says Halifax Chebucto MLA Howard Epstein.

"It's highly sought-after residential housing," the NDP MLA says, "but it's mostly characterized by single-family dwellings, duplexes and mostly small apartment buildings."

He predicts increased densification across the peninsula.

In the West End, he sees older couples moving out of the family home into smaller living situations and being replaced by younger couples with children. "That will help maintain children going to neighbourhood schools," he says.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

The Chebucto Road mosque will have a domed roof, similar to the one seen here on the Dome of Rock Mosque in Jerusalem's Old City. The Chebucto Road mosque is set to open next summer.

Epstein also thinks HRM will rezone the area to allow additional apartments, "granny suites" and slightly taller apartment buildings as HRM by Design starts to look at ways of getting more people to live in Halifax.

It won't be "disruptive" changes like 10-storey buildings, but people converting basements into apartments attics into rented space. "I think the feel of the West End will stay much the same," he says.

No major infrastructure is in the works now, but Epstein says he hopes Metro Transit will keep up the good service to the area.

One major new piece of private infrastructure is the Chebucto Road mosque, which will soon add to the diversity of religions populating the West End, with perhaps a dozen branches of Christianity, a Hindu temple, a Buddhist sanctuary and two synagogues calling the area home.

Hadi Salah, building committee chairman and principal of the Maritime Muslim Academy, says the new mosque will be roof-tight by the end of the year and will open in the summer of 2010.

"It's coming along quite well," he says. The total flooring for the building is 25,000 square feet, including an 8,000-square-foot prayer hall, a large gymnasium and classrooms, seminar rooms and youth-activity rooms.

"It's a community centre. Only one floor, the upper floor, is the prayer hall," he says, emphasizing that the centre will be open to Muslims and non-Muslims. The prayer hall will have room for about 700 people.

They selected the site as it is central for HRM's spread-out Muslim community.

"If you have the centre up in Bedford, many people who live in Halifax and Dartmouth never go to Bedford. Everybody comes to the city, because most come to universities or they work downtown," he explains.

It will be the first purpose-built mosque in HRM.

Future expansion for Bayers?

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

The West End of Halifax is a gateway to the peninsula, resulting in a bottleneck of opinions between the people who call it home and the people who call it the commute. The main roadblock right now is the renovations on the Fairview Overpass, but recent battles over expanding Chebucto Road may be repeated on Bayers Road.

Cathy MacIsaac of the Department of Transportation says crews are busy working under the partially blocked-off overpass to prepare for the demolition of two lanes. After that, the lanes will be rebuilt. It won't create any more room, but will keep the bridge from falling down.

The newer section — what is currently open — is in good shape and the rebuilt remainder is scheduled to be reopened by March, MacIsaac says.

When Chebucto Road was widened to allow a reversing lane last year, it led to protests in the streets and police protection for road crews. The lane is now in place and people are adjusting, the area's municipal representative says.

Jennifer Watts, councillor for District 14, says she hears three major complaints: Speed, traffic configuration and problems of entering the road from driveways.

"The entrances and exits into the Westmount subdivision are particularly problematic because of the speed with which people go through the intersection," she says. "People are concerned that the design has increased the speed of traffic through that area."

The issues are currently with an HRM traffic analyst but it doesn't look like they'll be able to change the road layout, Watts says. Some people are still waiting for promised landscaping to repair their shortened lawns and have complained that getting in and out of their driveways has been tricky as more cars drive past at greater speeds.

Bayers Road, the other great West End artery from suburbia into downtown, is being considered for future expansion. There have been public meetings and HRM is mulling a range of options and awaiting staff feedback, she says.

Watts would rather focus on reducing the number of cars on the road.

"Widening roads is just inviting more cars to come onto them," she says. "You really need to look at the alternatives for environmental sustainability ... and for neighbourhood integrity for people who live on the peninsula."

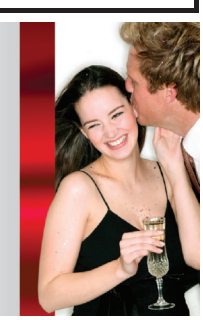
Buses, light rail, bikes and carsharing are ways to do that, Watts says, noting the Peninsula Transit Corridor study is considering widening the road from the railway track to Connaught to allow for a bus lane.

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Did you know?
Simpson's built a large department store in the West end in the 1930s, the first retail centre outside the downtown. WIKIPEDIA.ORG



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Projects in the works

RICHARD WOODBURY
for Metro Halifax

As general manager of the Quinpool Road Mainstreet District Association, Karla Nicholson knows just how popular the area is.

"There's no lack of businesses coming in or wanting to come in, which is a good thing," she says.

This also means that there isn't any shortage of issues or initiatives the association is working on.

One of those initiatives involves working with a group of Dalhousie management students taking a course called Management Without Borders. This class is a foundation course for students taking a Masters in Management degree at the university.

The students are collecting information from business districts, both within the city and in other cities to find out what the tax rates are for businesses in the downtown areas. The students are determining how much money is reinvested into the downtown.

"They're trying to capture some sort of idea of return on investment for the actual municipality," says Nicholson.

She says the association will take that information and present it to Halifax Regional Council with the hopes of getting more money for the area. The information will then be presented to the other levels of government with the same intention.

The project started in September and the results should come out in early December, says Nicholson. She hopes to present the findings to council at the same time.

Quinpool Road struggles with the perception that there isn't anywhere to park, says Nicholson. The association is working on a campaign to get the word out that that isn't the case.

"We are one of the best places you can park in terms of going to a downtown area," says Nicholson.



Quinpool Road struggles with the perception that there isn't anywhere to park, but that isn't the case, says Karla Nicholson.

"There are so many opportunities to park around Quinpool Road," she says.

"There are nine different side streets.

"There's free parking on the street in several sections. There's several private lots should you choose to go somewhere like Canadian Tire."

This campaign is being worked on by students at NSCAD University and will be presented to the association's board on Nov. 27.

Nicholson likes what she has seen so far.

"I've already seen three of the preliminary campaigns," she says. "I love them all."





Did you know?
Chebucto School, which was built in 1912, served as a morgue during the Halifax Explosion as it was close to the north end but relatively undamaged. WIKIPEDIA.ORG

For the love of shoe repair

Local shop has been around for 50-plus years

RICHARD WOODBURY
for Metro Halifax


GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO
For more than 50 years, Quinpool Shoe Repair has been making sure its clients' shoes look great and last longer.

So you think you need a new pair of boots or shoes for winter?

Well before you go and buy another pair, stop by Quinpool Shoe Repair and see what they can do to your old ones. For more than 50 years, Quinpool Shoe Repair has been making sure its clients' shoes look spectacular and last longer.

"My dad was always a shoemaker," says owner Dimitri Christeas. His family has owned the business for the past 20 years and he's been working there since that time.

Christeas learned the trade from his dad.

"My dad showed me a lot of stuff," says the 41-year-old.

Located on Quinpool Road, Quinpool Shoe Repair also does key cutting, skate sharpening and sells shoe supplies, such as laces and polish.

Christeas can even fix soccer balls and basketballs that are punctured.

"Sometimes, I might be able to patch it," he says.

Rich in character, stepping into Quinpool Shoe Repair is like stepping back in time. The walls feature posters of legendary entertainment figures like The Rat Pack, James Dean and The Beatles. The background music constantly hops between decades and features an eclectic mix of anything from jazz to classical to pop.

Open six days a week, the shop is closed on Sundays. Saturdays are its busiest day as people are out running errands on their days off.

"People want to get their stuff fixed before the week begins," says Christeas. The shop offers service while you wait or for pick-up at a later time.

With a winter storm already under Haligonians' belts, Christeas says customers are preparing for winter by waterproofing their shoes and getting rubber put under them so they aren't as slippery.

For people looking to take better care of their shoes, Christeas recommends using shoe trees to ensure the shoes don't stretch out and develop wrinkles. He also recommends clients polish their shoes regularly.

Christeas says today's shoes aren't really made any better than shoes of yesterday.

"A lot of shoes now have plastic in them," he says, noting they used to have more leather in them.

Christeas credits the business's success to the fact shoe styles change, but "people like to keep the style they have."

TAG preparing for Christmas pantomime

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

When Neptune Theatre was born in the 1960s, Halifax's own West End's Theatre Arts Guild was hitting its middle-age stride. With no permanent, professional theatre in the city, amateur troupes like TAG thrived.

"After Neptune became established, (TAG) became much more of a community theatre. It's a strong hobby that a lot of people are interested in. It's purely the will of the people" that keeps it thriving, says president Nick Jupp.

TAG is Canada's oldest continually operating community theatre. It was founded in 1931 and debuted with The Dover Road by A.A. Milne. It's put on shows every year since then, including a re-staging of The Dover Road for its 60th birthday.

During the war years, there was a change of activity from plays to concert parties, held for the troops stationed in Halifax before their deployment overseas, but it got back to theatre after the war. TAG has had several homes over the years, but in 1966, it took over a church hall at 6 Parkhill Rd. (near Frog Pond) and founded The Pond Playhouse. The 90-seat theatre has a full technical booth for light, sound and music.

Jupp started off as a TAG patron. One title in particular lured him through the fourth wall: Nude, With Violins. He auditioned, won a part, and has been a member ever since, writing, directing and acting. TAG has about 300 members, of which perhaps 60 are "highly active," with the rest pitching in on and off.

"It's been quite a big hobby," Jupp says.

The troupe, which puts on five plays between September and July, is currently preparing for its Christmas pantomime, A Spirit for Evermore.

Pantos, aimed primarily at children, are a British Christmas tradition. "The origins are in (Renaissance) dell'arte, but it's usually a fantasy story, or based on a children's story," Jupp explains. There are good guys and bad guys, and a happy ending.

"Audiences are encouraged to boo the bad guys and cheer the good guys," he adds.

In February, TAG will produce Carol Shields's Thirteen Hands. Daniel McIvor's How It Works will take to the stage in April.

For more information, or to buy tickets, go to Tagtheatre.com or call 902-477-2663.


West End's Theatre Arts Guild was founded in 1931.

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[2] TD Canada Trust received the highest numerical score among the big five retail banks in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2006–2009 Canadian Retail Banking Customer Satisfaction Studies SM. 2009 study based on responses from 12,555 retail banking customers measuring 5 banks. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed in March–June 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com

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PHOTO SUBMITTED

Santa will be handing out candy canes all along Quinpool Road on Nov. 28 and Dec. 5, 12 and 19.

Shopping gems abound

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

The anchor of West End shopping is the Halifax Shopping Centre, but dozens of smaller gems glitter in the landscape, especially along Quinpool Road.

Shoppers will get a chance to see them shine with Shopping Under the Stars, a pre-Christmas event that will put Santa on the streets and shoppers in the stores, says Karla Nicholson, general manager of the Quinpool Road Mainstreet District Association.

"We have a ton of events going on," she says, with toy drives, food drives and charity fundraisers. "The event was such a huge success last year that we decided to offer it for two evenings this year."

Held this Friday and again on Dec. 4, Shopping under the Stars offers evening shopping in the run-up to Christmas, but also lets businesses get into a festive frame of mind.

Go the shoppingunderthestars.ca for a list of participants and events.

"There's a lot of street-level shops, customer service — that's what you tend to get with these smaller mom-and-pop shops," she says of West End shopping.

"And there's always a fantastic eating experience on Quinpool if you're out shopping and want to eat."

Santa will be handing out candy canes all along Quinpool Road on Nov. 28 and Dec. 5, 12 and 19.

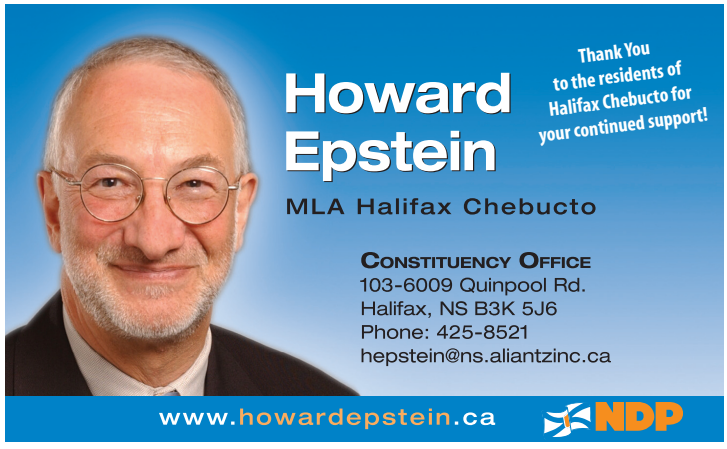
The West End is also home to the closest thing Halifax has to a repertoire cinema: The Oxford Theatre.

In addition to the usual off-Hollywood fair, the Ox will get into the Christmas spirit with a screening of Jim Carrey's How The Grinch Stole Christmas on Nov. 28 at 1 p.m. To get in free, bring an unwrapped toy donation for the Salvation Army.

For home décor, Zephyr Rugs and Home on Quinpool Road carries a range of furniture and decorative pieces you won't find elsewhere in HRM. For paper needs, Duly Noted, also on Quinpool, gives you the tools to create your own stationary.

If your piano is sickly, Doctor Piano on Bayers Road will make things right — or hook you up with a lovely new baby grand. If you're lucky, you'll be treated to an impromptu afternoon mini-concert as a talented pianist tests the merchandise.

One shopper described Games Workshop as a "geek paradise." Located in the annex to Halifax Shopping Centre (a.k.a. the West End Mall), it's central station for non-electronic gaming like Warhammer.



Did you know?
The West End is defined municipally by District 14 Connaught-Quinpool and provincially as the Constituency of Halifax Chebucto. WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Crime falling thanks to officers

RICHARD WOODBURY
for Metro Halifax

In recent years, there's been a shift in policing strategy in the HRM. Part of that shift has to do with the increased use of community response officers.

"We've derived great benefit from it," says Sgt. Jim Perrin. "Our crime stats continue to go down and these folks are a big part of it."

Perrin has six community response officers under his command and is responsible for the West area of Halifax. He says that just four or five years ago, that number was one.

"We've grown quite a bit," says Perrin.

Community response officers are police officers who work in specific neighbourhoods, but have a different scope of responsibilities than patrol officers.

"They're doing two sides of policing," says Perrin. "They're not just doing enforcement policing, but they're working with their communities. They're getting to know their business people in their communities and they're working with the various neighbourhood watch programs."



Community response officers have different responsibilities than patrol officers, but they have access to the same resources.

Perrin says the community response officers work on issues "that are not going away," such as traffic concerns or persistent speeding.

"Sometimes, these issues are outside of policing and can require assistance from other HRM agencies," says Perrin. This could include animal bylaws or an unsightly premise.

"It's a wide gamut of things that they are responsible for, but certainly the quality of life issues are something they deal with on a day-to-day basis," he says.

The community response officers work closely with the local politicians and community members.

"They're coming at it from all sides," says Perrin.

Although the community response officers have different responsibilities than patrol officers, they have access to the same resources, such as extra patrols or other investigation units like the drug and vice squads.

The move to sector-based policing (units responsible for policing certain areas) isn't a new idea, says Perrin. In the '60s, '70s and early '80s, this was how it was done.

But the move to a general patrol strategy wasn't successful.

"It just didn't work," says Perrin.

He uses the example of policing downtown Halifax on a Friday or Saturday night.

"So all your police would naturally gravitate to where the calls were in downtown Halifax," he says. "Well, there still were neighbourhoods in the North End and the West End that were basically not being policed."

The shift to sector policing means officers are deployed and remain in certain areas, unless they get permission to leave.

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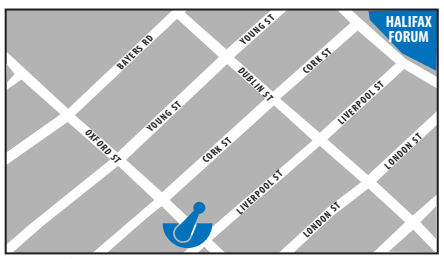
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Did you know?
The West End was severely affected by Hurricane Juan in 2003 as the high density of large, older trees in the neighbourhood resulted in many damaged houses, blocked streets and prolonged power outages. WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Food, sales on offer

RICHARD WOODBURY
for Metro Halifax





On Sat., Nov. 28, you can check out Fries & Co. for some fish and chips after spending the day shopping with a 20 per cent discount as part of Take 20!.

West End Halifax offers no shortage of fun things to do, including shopping, great meals and recreation opportunities.

The Halifax Shopping Centre and the Halifax Shopping Centre Annex on Mumford Road offer more than 170 shops and services. With a trip to both, you should be able to cross off all the items on your shopping list.

On Sat., Nov. 28, Take 20! will be happening. This one-day event allows people to get 20 per cent off at select Halifax Shopping Centre retailers. On that same day, Santa will arrive and pictures with him will be free via email. Printed 4 x 6 copies will cost $5 with the fee being donated to children in need.

If you're hungry, check out Fries & Co. on Connolly Street. It's a West End institution known for its fish and chips.

"We've been doing Fries & Co. as long as I can remember," says Sarah Murrant, a Halifax resident who grew up in the area. The 27-year-old says when her parents first started dating more than 40 years ago, they'd go on dates there.

"They love it," she says.

The Quinpool Road area is also known for its restaurants.

"It's quickly becoming sort of known as the restaurant centre," says Karla Nicholson, the general manager of the Quinpool Road Mainstreet District Association.

Just a few of the culinary possibilities available are Caribbean, Greek and Chinese.

At the Clay Café on Quinpool Road, people of all ages can drop in and paint pottery. With more than 300 kinds of pottery to choose from, such as mugs, bowls and vases, it will be hard to choose. You can even work on projects such as wine glasses, beer steins, and customizable picture frames.

Afterwards, why not head across the street to the Oxford Theatre? The single-screen theatre is a rarity in today's world of stadium-seating theatres. On Sat., Nov. 28, there will be a showing of How the Grinch Stole Christmas starring Jim Carrey. Admission is free with an unwrapped toy donation for the Salvation Army.

For recreation opportunities, try bowling at the Fairlanes Bowling Centre in the Halifax Shopping Centre. Both five-pin and candlepin bowling are available at the 34-lane-facility. There's even glow-in-the-dark bowling.

The St. Andrew's Centre on Bayers Road has something for everyone. A new batch of recreation activities starts in January. Classes for kids include ballet, cheerleading and drawing. Adult classes include quilting, volleyball and self-defence.

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Women still cook more

According to an Associated Press-iVillage Food poll, women are still doing more of the cooking. Just 51 per cent of men said they make a home-cooked meal at least sometimes, compared with 71 per cent of women. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Food



'Love parfait' contains Viagra

A Colombian cooking school has concocted a "love dessert" made with passion fruit — and Viagra. Student chefs at the state culinary school in Quindio province wouldn't give the complete ingredients but say it contains the active ingredient in Viagra. The pudding-like dessert is garnished with whipped cream and chocolate, and served in a parfait glass. The dessert is, of course, not for sale as Viagra is a prescription drug. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadian Living magazine is on sale now!

Canadian Living recipe of the month

A low-fat weeknight meal option



EDWARD PON

Broiled trout with warm lentil salad from Canadian Living.

Broiled Trout with Warm Lentil Salad

SERVES 4
PREP TIME: 6 MINUTES
COOK TIME: 30 MINUTES

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/2 tsp each ground coriander and cumin (2 mL)
- 1/4 tsp each cayenne pepper and salt (1 mL)
- 2 skinless trout fillets (750 g)
- 2 lemon wedges

Warm Lentil Salad:

- 3 Tbsp olive oil (45 mL)
- 1 cup diced leek (white and light green parts only, 250 mL)
- 1/2 cup each diced celery and carrot (125 mL)
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 1/2 tsp each ground coriander, cumin and salt (2 mL)
- 1 cup dried green lentils (250 mL)
- 1/4 cup minced fresh celery leaves and/or (50 mL)
- coriander leaves
- 3 Tbsp lemon juice (45 mL)

METHOD:

1. Warm Lentil Salad: In large saucepan, heat 1 tbsp (15 mL) of the oil over medium heat; cook leek, celery, carrot, garlic, coriander, cumin and salt until softened, about 5 minutes.
2. Stir in 3 cups (750 mL) water; cover and bring to boil. Add lentils; reduce heat and simmer until tender, 25 to 30 minutes. Drain and transfer to bowl. Add remaining oil, celery leaves and lemon juice; toss to combine.
3. Meanwhile, in small bowl, combine coriander, cumin, cayenne and salt; rub over top of trout fillets. Broil on greased baking sheet until fish flakes easily when tested, 6 to 8 minutes. Serve with lemon wedges and salad.

Per serving: about 499 cal, 46 g pro, 21 g total fat (4 g sat. fat), 34 g carb, 7 g fibre, 90 mg chol, 516 mg sodium, 1,233 mg potassium.

Gingersnap Cookies

MAKES ABOUT 48 COOKIES

A gluten- and nut-free dessert

For gluten-free baking, we use Bob's Red Mill Gluten-Free All-Purpose Baking Flour. Look for it in health food stores or the organic section of grocery stores.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/3 cup unsalted butter, softened (75 mL)
- 1 1/3 cups granulated sugar (325 mL)
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup fancy molasses (50 mL)
- 2 1/2 cups gluten-free all-purpose baking flour (625 mL)
- 1 1/2 tsp ground ginger (7 mL)
- 1 tsp baking soda (5 mL)
- 1 tsp each ground cloves and cinnamon (5 mL)
- pinch salt

METHOD:

1. In large bowl, beat butter with 1 cup (250 mL) of the sugar; beat in egg and molasses. In separate bowl, whisk together baking flour, ginger, baking soda, cloves, cinnamon and salt; stir into butter mixture to form stiff dough.
2. Roll dough by level 1 tbsp (15 mL) into balls; roll in remaining sugar. Place, 2 inches (5 cm) apart, on parchment paper–lined baking sheets; press to flatten slightly.
3. Bake in 350°F (180°C) oven until edges are light golden, about 12 minutes. Transfer to rack; let cool. (Make-ahead: Store in airtight container for up to 5 days or freeze for up to 2 weeks).

Per cookie: about 61 cal, 1 g pro, 2 g total fat (1 g sat. fat), 12 g carb, 1 g fibre, 7 mg chol, 28 mg sodium, 29 mg potassium.

online

For more Tested-Till-Perfect recipes, visit canadianliving.com



LiquidAssets

Peter Rockwell



metronews.ca/liquidassets

Version 2009

I can't think of a more polarizing style of wine than **Beaujolais Nouveau**. Made from quickly pressed gamay grape juice in France's Beaujolais region; it's the first liquid released from the northern hemisphere's 2009 harvest. Air freighted to wine shops the world over — who promise not to sell any until the third Thursday of November (which is this Thursday) — it's either revered or reviled by wine fans.

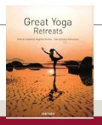
While there's no denying that its arrival brings some much needed attention to the floundering French wine industry; the hype — that convinced folks to line up for a bottle back in the '70s — has been diluted considerably by wet blanket snobs who can't see the fun past the marketing plan.

Though always light and super fruity; Georges Duboeuf, the undisputed king of Beaujolais, claims that thanks to some great weather Nouveau version 2009 will be one of the best in the last 50 years.

Selection across the country will vary with wines from producers like Duboeuf, Pierre André, Mommessin and Albert Bichot averaging around **$13 to $16**. Be sure to serve them chilled.







Great Yoga Retreats
Arty publishing house Taschen is set to launch a compilation of "the finest Yoga retreat sites and centres, from Mexico to India via Tuscany and Big Sur." Pre-order Great Yoga Retreats by Kristin Rubesamen and Angelika Taschen for $31.49 at amazon.ca.

Health & Beauty

EDITOR: JENNIFER.PRITTIE@METRONEWS.CA

STDs still on the rise, report U.S. officials

SEXUAL HEALTH Sexually spread diseases continue to rise, with reported chlamydia cases setting yet another record in 2008, government health officials in the U.S. said yesterday.

Last year there were 1.2 million new cases of chlamydia, a sometimes symptomless infection that can lead to infertility in women. It was the most ever reported, up from the old record of 1.1 million cases in 2007.

Better screening is the most likely reason, said Dr. John Douglas Jr. of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Syphilis, on the verge of being eliminated in the United States about 10 years ago, also has been increasing lately. About 13,500 cases of the most contagious form of the disease were reported in 2008, up from about 11,500 the year before.

Unlike chlamydia, health officials think syphilis cases actually are increasing. Syphilis rates are up among both gay men and heterosexuals, said Douglas, director of the CDC's Division of STD Prevention.

Syphilis can kill if untreated, but chlamydia is not life-threatening. Neither is gonorrhea, which seems to have plateaued in recent years. Gonorrhea cases dropped to about 337,000 cases in 2008, down from about 356,000 cases.

Girls, ages 15 through 19, had the largest reported number of chlamydia and gonorrhea cases, accounting for more than one in four of those cases. But they're often screened more than other people, since 1993 federal recommendations that emphasize testing for sexually active women age 25 and under.

The government estimates there are roughly 19 million new cases of sexually transmitted disease annually. Experts say the most common is HPV, human papillomavirus, which can cause genital warts, cervical cancer and other cancers.

The government doesn't ask doctors to report every HPV case, but estimates the virus causes 6.2 million new cases each year. That is an old estimate, based on data from 2000, before a vaccine against some types of HPV came on the market in 2006.

The CDC estimates there are 1.6 million new cases of genital herpes each year, but that too is an old estimate for a non-reportable disease.

The agency also estimates there about 56,000 new cases of HIV each year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Chock full of charm

Pandora's Makeup Box strikes a lighthearted note

JANINE FALCON
for Metro Canada

A new Canadian line of colour cosmetics is aiming to make a charming beauty impression with cheerfully feminine eco-responsible packaging, a wearable palette of hues and high-pigment formulas.

"I wanted it to be a happy line," says Pandora's Makeup Box creator Susan Kirsch, a successful makeup artist for 25 years and owner of Kirsch Cosmetic Studio in Toronto. "Why does makeup packaging have to be black?"

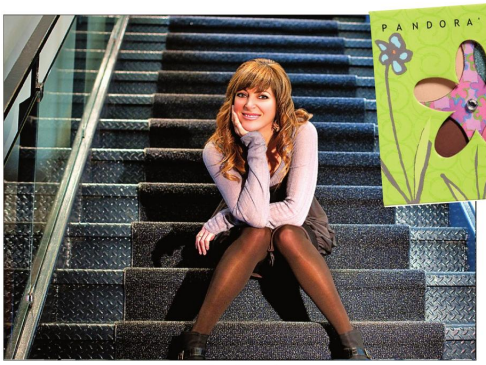
As well as pretty packaging, reducing potential waste was a key concern for Kirsch. Recyclable lipstick and gloss boxes have a plastic-free cutout window through which to see product shades.

Durable magnetized cardboard palettes are designed to outlast the pans of powder so they can be refilled and reused. The cardboard itself is composed of recycled materials and printed with soy ink, which is less environmentally stressful than regular ink and facilitates easier recycling.

And rather than enclose the compacts in boxes or shrinkwrap for shipping, Kirsch went for snug-fit removeable and recyclable cardboard bands.

Kirsch also considers waste at a manufacturing level. "I chose to work with a small lab so I could produce smaller batches of makeup," she says. "I wanted to reduce the chances of product sitting around on shelves until they expire."

DOUG STURGEON/ECLIPSE PHOTOGRAPHY



Susan Kirsch, creator of Pandora's Makeup Box.

"I wanted it to be a happy line. Why does makeup packaging have to be black?"
Susan Kirsch, Pandora's Makeup Box creator

When it came to creating her makeup shades, Kirsch took her diverse clientele into account. A blush pink lipstick called Sweet is appropriate for her young Bat Mitzvah clients; bolder shades such as Beautiful, Flushed and So Real are designed for more mature women. XOXO, a peachy-pink gloss, is for women who usually can't wear pink because the natural undertone in their lips is too blue.

Great is her only sheer gloss, a transparent red for women too shy for bold red lips. And a gloss called Ciao, which Kirsch admits looks strange in the tube, actually looks great on Asian faces because it works with the acidity in their skin.

"I have acidity issues myself — some colours turn really pink on my lips," says Kirsch. "I wear a peach-gold lipstick called Sexy with a gloss called Soft, a flattering nude shade I can also wear by itself."

Value was another important concern. Each disk of powder eye shadow or blush contains 4 grams, a generous amount for $18 each, or $14 each when composing an eye-and-cheek palette.

"I used the same pan size for shadow and blush to make it easy to mix and match in the same compact," says Kirsch. And the highly pigmented formulas means the makeup wears well, and overall lasts the client a long time: she needs only a little to achieve a compliments-please finish.

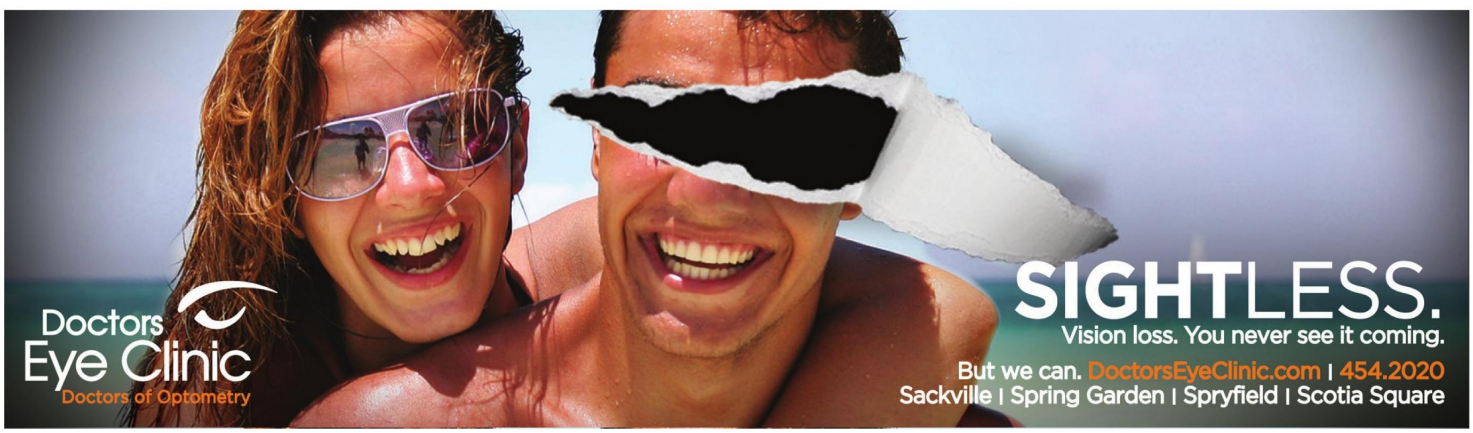
• Pandora's Makeup Box is available at Murale, mur ale.ca, and via PandorasMakeupBox.com.



Left, custom palette: Empty compact, $10; eye shadow and blush, $14 each. Below, powder blush, $18.

GEOFF GEORGE (PRODUCT IMAGES)

Above, powder blush in Misty Pink, $18, is Kirsch's choice for women who like just a hint of cheek colour. Below left, Powder blush in Pout, $18, is a fresh pop of pink for all skintones, says Kirsch.



Prostate cancer study
A long-term study has found that men with low-grade, slow-growing prostate cancer who are managed with "active surveillance" and no radical treatment have an extremely high survival rate. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Virtual fitness: Keeping realism in mind

Online service tries to plan exercise that accommodates women's lifestyles

ROMINA McGUINNESS
Metro World NEws

A brand of fitness programs dubbed Iamsuperchick.com may sound like it's meant for hardcore workout addicts — and the photo of its creators may look impossibly glam — but its actually aiming to take the intimidation out of exercise.

Georgie Thompson, a U.K. television presenter who founded the service along with personal trainer Cat Dungale, acknowledges that plenty of women would rather sit on the couch cradling a glass of wine in one hand and peanuts in the other than train.

"Women won't stick to an unrealistic training program, no matter how committed they are," she says.

"We offer an alternative: Online programs and home videos they can fit into their hectic lifestyles. The reason Cat and I created iamsuperchick.com was to help women who enjoy fitness but are too intimidated by it."

Indeed, from the Yummy Mummy to the Fight Club workout, the website caters to a variety of lifestyles. "If we're going to put ourselves out there as a female fitness brand which responds to the demands of women, it must be reflected in the service," explains Thompson.

Whether you use a can of food as weights or choose to do lunges while vacuuming, Thompson and Dungale want to inspire you to get fit on your own turf. "Using what you have lying around the house and turning your front room into a gym is part of our credit-crunch appeal," Thompson says. "Fitness should be more light-hearted, not about fancy equipment or spending a fortune on personal trainers.

"We make exercise fun. We have an alcohol calculator, interactive training diary and fitness assessment charts as well as Motivation Monday, where we send members an electronic cupcake. When you operate an online business it's important to connect in a more personal way and Motivation Monday is one way we do that."

Georgie's fitness tips

- Balance your cardio with your cocktails: "It's so important in life to have a balance of all things," says Georgie Thompson, co-founder of Iamsuperchick.com
- Best hangover cure: "A run."
- Iamsuperchick's best tool: "The fitness assessment chart, it's a pleasure to monitor your own progress and keeps you focused on the task in hand."
- Word of advice: "It's important to not be too ambitious with your training. If you stick to realistic goals, then the likelihood is you may actually achieve them."
- For more information visit Iamsuperchick.com.


ROB MATTHEWS

Iamsuperchick.com founders Georgie Thompson, left, and Cat Dungale.

QUINPOOL ROAD
AT YOUR SERVICE

Vampire mania: It's all about sex

The J Spot
Josey Vogels
metronews.ca/thejspot

There's still time to get your New Moon duvet cover or your Bite Me Edward tote bag before Friday, which is the official release date of the much-anticipated second installment in the Twilight series, The Twilight Saga: New Moon.

Unless you've been hiding in a bat cave, you'll likely have noticed that vampires are hot these days. The television drama True Blood is HBO's most popular series since The Sopranos and Sex and the City. The CW's The Vampire Diaries is becoming equally popular. And, depending on your sources, as many as 33 vampire movies were produced in 2008/2009.

So what's got us all so bloodthirsty? Some would say it's all about sex. In fact, True Blood creator Alan Ball has been quoted as saying that vampires are a metaphor for sex. Certainly, the whole seductive, neck-biting, blood-sucking thing has a not-so-subtle sexual undertone; but when Bram Stoker brought the vampire to the masses in 1897, his novel Dracula was also a thinly vampire-cloaked metaphor for the repressed and conservative sexual mores of the time.

Giving into the count's temptation turned women into dangerous seductresses, the opposite of the unrealistic Victorian ideal of women as virgins or mothers.

Unlike the brutish, macho vampires of yesteryear, today's young vampires reflect a more modern young man. Sort of like Vampire Metrosexuals, they're sensitive, pretty boys with tortured souls and perfectly mussed hair.

But in today's vampire tales there is still an underlying message that a woman who gives in to her sexual urges will be punished. While human Bella wants to do it, despite undead Edward's reluctance, she also knows that having sex with him could unleash his bloodlust, with dire consequences for her.

Edward's insistence that they wait certainly reflects the current, conservative preaching to young people to practise abstinence. But, just as in Victorian days, vampire fiction doesn't always reflect mortal reality.

As Robert Pattinson, the actor who plays Edward, put it in a recent interview: "I think it's hilarious that everyone, especially parents, are saying it's about abstinence and they're really pleased their kids are reading it (the movies are based on a book series). And yet so many people who are reading the books are thinking" I want them to have sex! I want them to make me want to have sex!"

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit joseyvogels.com.

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Low-fat diets may be better for mood

NUTRITION It's an age-old question for dieters: Low fat or low carb? Well, they can both result in equal weight loss. But if you want to avoid biting someone's head off, a low-fat diet might be better. People on low-fat diets aren't as susceptible to hostility, depression and being in a bad mood as people on low-carbohydrate diets, according to an Australian study.

The study involved 106 overweight and obese adults, who successfully dieted for one year, with the help of meal plans, recipes, a supply of certain foods and regular support from a dietitian. People in both groups lost an average of 30 pounds and were pleased with this. But at the one-year mark, they were clinically assessed for anger/hostility, confusion/bewilderment and depression/dejection. The low-carb dieters fared worse on these measures. Researchers guessed that low-carb diets are harder to stick to than low-fat diets because they are further removed from typical Western food habits. Perhaps that's why they take more of a mental toll.

CELIA MILNE/
FOR METRO CANADA

Beauty picks:



Bumble & Bumble's Deep is the conditioner to grab when you've had a few too many colour treatments and blow dries. The treatment is a hydrating formula of sunflower seed oil, soy protein, wheat protein and vitamin B5 that works to smooth hair and repair damage. Bonus: The passion flower fruit juice leaves your locks smelling nice. Available for $25 US at bumbleandbumble.com.

KENYA HUNT/
METRO WORLD NEWS

King marries his queen

Kings of Leon drummer Nathan Followill has wed his girlfriend, singer/songwriter Jessie Baylin. They tied the knot on the weekend in Tennessee in front of close friends and family, including Scarlett Johansson. USMAGAZINE.COM

Entertainment



Crown jewel

Bragelina have completed a limited edition collection of gold jewelry and silver accessories called The Protector for high-end jeweler Asprey.

USMAGAZINE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Vampires to dominate holidays

Post-apocalyptic worlds, Fantastic foxes and Sherlock Holmes slated for big screen

Movie **feature**

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

As we move into the final few weeks of 2009, there is much to occupy people's minds — namely Christmas.

But along with the perennial pursuit of great gifts comes the annual boon of box-office hits and this year's choices will be no different.

Whether you get your kicks from brooding vampires, a foxy George Clooney or musicals based from avant-garde films — the forthcoming holiday movie season has something for everyone to enjoy. Here is a glimpse at what is upcoming:

TWILIGHT: NEW MOON
(Nov. 20)

The holiday season kicks off with the hotly-anticipated second installment of the Twilight saga featuring vampire Edward and his girlfriend now caught in a love triangle with a teenaged werewolf.

Seriously.

FANTASTIC MR. FOX
(Nov. 25)

Wes Anderson (Rushmore) tries his hand at animation with help from George Clooney as an adventure-seeking fox in this quirky adaptation of Roald Dahl's classic children's book.



WETA

Sam Worthington, left as Jake Sully and Zoë Saldana as Neytiri star in Avatar.

THE ROAD
(Nov. 27)

In this critically-acclaimed reworking of the Pulitzer-Prize winning novel, Viggo Mortensen tries to protect his son in a post-apocalyptic world where food may be scarce but this year's Oscar nominations will be plentiful.

UP IN THE AIR
(Dec. 4)

George Clooney makes another appearance (and may just nab a second Oscar) in this clever comedy about a downsizing expert whose own flighty lifestyle gets grounded.



ALEX BAILEY

Jude Law, left, as Dr. Watson and Robert Downey Jr. as Sherlock Holmes star in the action/adventure mystery Sherlock Holmes.

THE LOVELY BONES
(Dec. 11)

Peter Jackson (Lord of the Rings) adapts this hit novel about a murdered young girl who watches her family from heaven. I'm fairly certain Gollum doesn't make an appearance.

AVATAR
(Dec. 18)

It's been a decade since James Cameron's Titanic. Now the Oscar-winning filmmaker gets back to his sci-fi roots with this cutting edge thriller that's cost over $200 million to produce. Let's hope it doesn't sink like…well, you know.

ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SEQUEL
(Dec 25)

The animated pop-singing rodents are back to save a struggling high school music program. To clear any uncertainty, this is not a documentary.

SHERLOCK HOLMES
(Dec. 25)

Robert Downey Jr. gives the legendary character a facelift in this Guy Ritchie-film. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle would be proud.

NINE
(Dec. 25)

Rob Marshall (Chicago) directs this musical version of Fellini's classic film 8 ½. With an ensemble cast that includes Daniel Day Lewis and Nicole Kidman, Nine will surely make Millions at the box office this Christmas.

McCartney wins his 3rd Gershwin

AWARD The Library of Congress is awarding Paul McCartney its third Gershwin Prize for Popular Song.

Librarian of Congress James Billington announced the prize yesterday. An all-star tribute concert is planned for spring next year, though the library hasn't announced who will perform.



Paul McCartney

Billington says it's hard to think of another performer and composer who has had a more transformative effect than McCartney. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Germany reviews extortion scheme

SUPERMODEL German prosecutors say they are opening an investigation against a man suspected of trying to extort money from former supermodel Cindy Crawford and her family in the United States.

Edis Kayalar, has been charged in the U.S. with trying to extort $100,000 from Crawford and her entrepreneur husband Rande Gerber by threatening to release a photo of their daughter bound to a chair and gagged when she was seven. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Mariah's Christmas hit remixed
Mariah Carey's hit All I Want for Christmas Is You has been remixed by Joey Arbagey for its 15th anniversary. The song was the first single of Carey's 1994 album, Merry Christmas. **POPEATER.COM**



Forever or nothing

Canadian R&B star Massari ready to take over world

BRIAN TOWIE
Metro Canada

When Metro last talked to Massari three years ago, he was regaling us about what would make a perfect date. His included a steak dinner, rose petals on the bed and Boyz II Men playing in the background. These days, it would consist of popcorn, a movie and snuggling on the couch with sweat pants on.

It's an unlikely answer from, all appearances to the contrary, a deceptively uncomplicated and driven man.

Upon listening to the release of sophomore effort Forever Massari, released last Tuesday in Canada and slated for international audiences today, one would suspect the Beirut-via-Ottawa R&B artist to be obsessed with pizzazz, and the desire to lay down a driving, edgy club beat.

It's certainly seems to be the case with lead-off single Body Body, wherein Massari (born Sari Abboud) samples 1987 dance track Push It by Salt N' Pepa.

But the latest release is just one aspect of the empire for which he wants to be known, one which includes a clothing line, charity work and a signature cologne by this time next year.

"My goal for this album is my goal for everything else I want to do — global domination," he said.

"I have a philosophy of 'expect nothing, get everything' and I'm hoping for the best. I haven't stopped working since my first album (2006's Massari, which went gold in Canada), although that work has been in different areas. I'm making sure people know that was the groundwork for what I'm doing now. I have my hands in everything and I like it that way."

A grand plan lies beneath the infamously chin-strapped exterior — a beard style he left behind after attending too many Halloween parties full of people dressed as him — one that Massari has, up to this point, been executing with modest success, growing from independent artist to major-label-backed Canadian star with some international notice.

Besides the fact he can sing in three languages (English, French and Arabic) and has rarely met an old school beat he didn't like, Massari, whose name translates to "money" from Middle Eastern slang, credits its flashy designer clothing, jewelry and cars as a huge chunk of the appeal. Tools for the greater goal of leaving something to remember, he says.

"Well, I don't half-ass anything," he laughs.



Massari has returned with a new album, Forever Massari.

"My goal for this album is my goal for everything else I want to do — global domination."
Massari

"These are all tools to accomplish my mission. To be successful in the business, you have to have these things, but of course none of it is real, or the real you. Money doesn't dictate my life, the work and the results do."

When I leave this world, I'll leave with nothing. And, God willing, it will be my deeds, accomplishments and actions that will count for something. We'll remember people who were feared, for all the wrong reasons, but we remember people who were loved even more. That's what I care about."



GETTY IMAGES

Two members of electronica pioneers Kraftwerk in concert.

Kraftwerk re-wired

CAM LINDSAY
for Metro Canada

When you're 40 years into a career, it's only fair that you're afforded the opportunity to go back and right any outstanding wrongs. After decades of waiting, Kraftwerk's Ralf Hütter has finally been given his chance with the reissue of the group's last eight albums.

"I don't want to complain but some of the catalogue was never in the quality that it should have been," says the only remaining original member of the group. "It was a nightmare."

To be issued next week both individually and as a box set titled The Catalogue, Hütter now feels Kraftwerk's music can be appreciated the way it was supposed to be. "We reworked the masters, so for the first time they are remastered with the latest technology in our Kling Klang studio," he explains. "So we're very happy that for the first time the albums come in the formats with all of the artwork, like they were originally conceived."

Considered as influential on modern music as The Beatles, the pioneering electronic act from Düsseldorf, Germany can be heard in music of everyone from David Bowie and New Order to Madonna and Coldplay. But Hütter downplays Kraftwerk's impact beyond the work he and his various collaborators have put into the music.

"We called ourselves musical workers, and we just did our work with electronics," he says. "Music and technology for us were like a unit, always, and we just continued our work from there."

Hütter can't take all the credit though — there are those iconic robot mannequins that have represented the look and sound of the band all these years.

Whether it's the music or the robots people remember Kraftwerk for, Hütter says he and coworkers aren't done innovating. Earlier this year they began presenting the second half of their concert in 3-D, and in Manchester invited the British Olympic cycling team to ride on a track during a performance of their hit song Tour De France. New music is also expected at some point.



In brief

ALBUM Pope Benedict XVI sings and prays along to a mix of modern music and ancient church chants in a new album that will be released soon. The album, titled Alma Mater — Music from the Vatican, includes eight original pieces of contemporary music, interwoven with Gregorian chants and the pope's voice.

IDOLS Kris Allen knows he's not garnering as much attention as Adam Lambert — and that's OK with him. "I don't mind," an always modest Allen says. His self-titled album comes out today, a week before Lambert's For Your Entertainment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

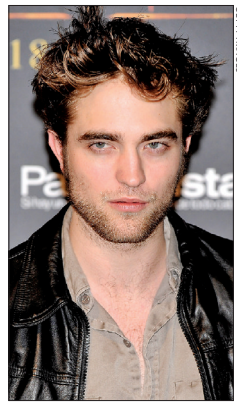
Sigourney sued
Sigourney Weaver has been named in a $5 million US lawsuit involving a cosmetics company. The Alien actress is a minority shareholder in the business, and owner Vincent Longo is being sued by Anthony Minuto after a transaction between the pair turned sour. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Heartthrobs a girl's best fantasy

Hollywood crushes are often teen's first taste of love


THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


GETTY IMAGES


GETTY IMAGES

From James Dean, left, to Johnny Depp, centre, to Robert Pattinson, Hollywood has delivered handsome heartthrobs that any girl could love in the privacy of their bedrooms.

Fifteen-year-old Chloe Bates is in love.

A 10th-grader at an all-girls Catholic school, she lights up when she talks about her handsome 17-year-old honey. Chloe doesn't know too many boys, so she still gets a nervous, buzzy feeling whenever she thinks about HIM. Her friends know all about this guy — he's a regular text and telephone topic between school, homework and dance practice.

Chloe keeps a few pictures of him on her bedroom wall, scattered among snapshots of her and her friends. She also writes about him in her journal. But she can't really get close to him. It's like he doesn't know she exists.

Chloe is in love with Taylor Lautner, one of the hunky stars of the Twilight films. And she's not alone.

Girls have been falling in love with movie stars since the dawn of cinema. When teenagers became Tinseltown's prime marketing target, Hollywood delivered handsome heartthrobs any girl could love.

James Dean. Frankie Avalon. David Cassidy. Rick Springfield. Johnny Depp. There are teen icons for every generation. For Chloe and millions of girls around the world, it's Lautner and Robert Pattinson of New Moon, the latest instalment in the Twilight series.

These girls aren't just experiencing a movie-star crush, they're participating in a uniquely female rite of passage: The birth of romantic fantasy. And today's technology — online fan forums, Twitter — lets them get closer than ever.

Before real boyfriends and first kisses, girls' imaginary relationships with their heartthrobs provide a precursor to adult romance — a love before they know what love might be.

"They're practising feelings of love and attachment and attraction and romance," says Los Angeles psychologist Wendy Walsh, whose own 11-year-old daughter also loves Lautner.

"These are all new feelings, and what a safe way to play them out — in the privacy of their own room with a poster of Taylor Lautner."

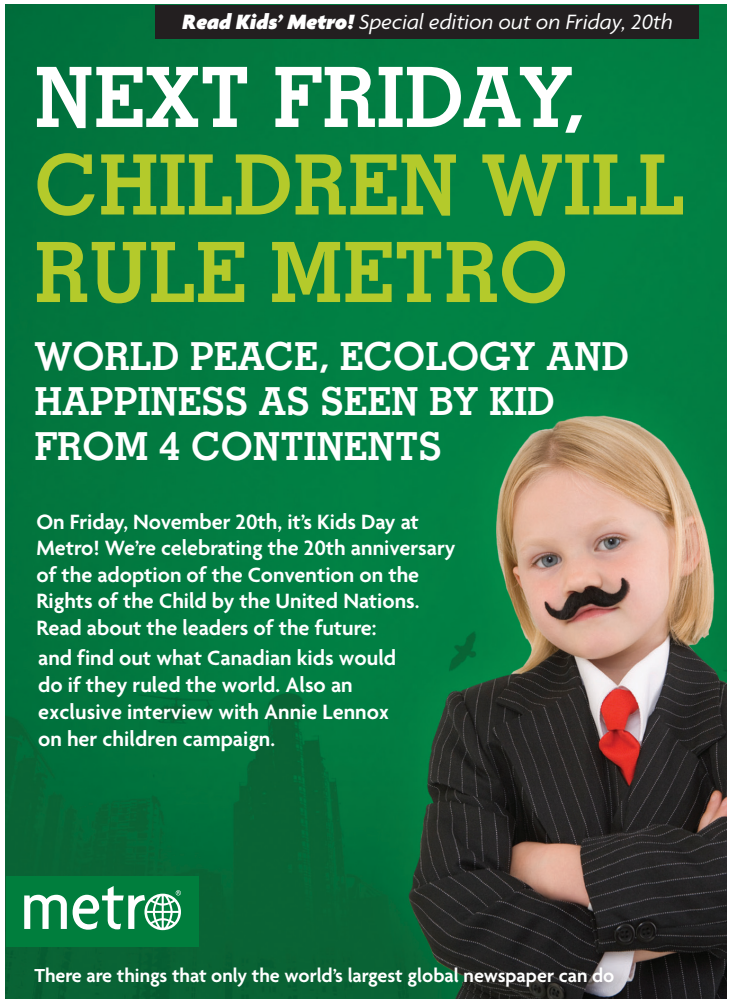
The Twilight series itself is about first love. New Moon centres on Bella Swan, an ordinary teenager in love with the mysterious Edward Cullen (Pattinson), who comes from a family of vampires.

Edward is romantic and otherworldly, and though he literally hungers for her, he's gentle and protective. But he leaves and Bella finds comfort with her loyal, longtime friend Jacob Black (Lautner), whom she later discovers belongs to a lineage of werewolves.

"It would be so fun to be Bella," Chloe says wistfully. "I love the idea of having two super-hot mythical creatures fighting over me. I just think that would be incredible."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





Breast implants are Christian: Prejean
Ousted Miss California USA Carrie Prejean has something to get off her chest: She isn't a bad Christian because she got implants. "No, I don't think there's anything wrong with getting breast implants as a Christian," she told Christianity Today. USMAGAZINE.COM

DVD picks

Star Trek



Director: J.J. Abrams

PHASERS SET ON "STUNNING." This is the Star Trek true fans have been missing, but barely dared hope for: a return to the original characters, in all their giddy glory and with all their hilarious hubris.

Director J.J. Abrams delivers a solid reboot to series creator Gene Roddenberry's 1960s ideas about life in "space: the final frontier."

This one ranks right up there with such character-driven triumphs as The Wrath of Khan and The Voyage Home. The special effects are seamless.

The casting is all aces. The emphasis was wisely placed on talent, including good comic timing) rather than on marquee recognition or resemblance to the original cast. By boldly going back to where it all began, Abrams has taken Star Trek exactly where it belongs.

Extras are extreme, including nine deleted scenes, a director commentary, a gag reel and several making-of featurettes.

Brüno



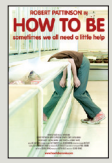
Director: Larry Charles

AS ANY COMEDIAN WILL TELL YOU, IT'S HARD TO TELL THE SAME JOKE TWICE. That's the situation with Brüno, in which the abundantly gifted and remarkably brave (or crazy) Sacha Baron Cohen once again attempts mass deception for comic purposes.

Cohen's Brüno, an Austrian fashionista with minor talent and major attitude, has just one big dumb prank to play about being gay, and he does so to the point of numbness. Gays and straights can feel equally offended, but also equally bored.

Cohen needs to move on to another brand of comedy that better serves him.

How to Be



Director: Oliver Irving

INEPTLY WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY OLIVER IRVING, THIS DIRECT-to-DVD comedy has little going for it apart from Robert Pattinson, better known as vampire Edward in the Twilight series. Here he's saddo Art, a London wannabe singer-songwriter whose lack of musicianship is matched by his poor self-esteem. When his girlfriend dumps him and his parents ignore him, Art finds himself in the midst of a "quarter-life crisis."

All of the secondary characters are poorly drawn or entirely loathsome. Yet Pattinson impresses in a difficult role, which makes this a worthwhile rental for any Twilight fan seeking another look at the man behind Edward. Extras include a director's commentary, an interview with Pattinson and a making-of featurette.

Peter Howell/for Metro Canada

Janet blames doctor for Michael's sudden death

INTERVIEW Janet Jackson blames Dr. Conrad Murray for her brother Michael's death.

She told ABC News in an interview to air Wednesday that Murray should no longer be allowed to practice medicine. Murray faces manslaughter charges for the pop star's death this summer.

A spokeswoman for the doctor, Miranda Sevcik said yesterday he continues to maintain he neither prescribed or administered anything to Jackson that should have killed him.


Janet Jackson

Jackson told ABC's Robin Roberts that she recalled her shock when at her home in New York on June 25 her assistant called to say Michael had been taken to the hospital.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

JACKSON FUNERAL The Los Angeles city attorney says he's still seeking reimbursement of the $3 million the city spent for the Michael Jackson memorial — even though a report says there was no law at the time that would be capable of forcing a payback.

STILL SCREAMING Courteney Cox says she's excited about returning to the horror genre in Scream 4, the upcoming slasher sequel being written by Kevin Williamson, who wrote the first two films in the popular horror trilogy.

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11/17/09

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	31	31	31 ABC	News Center 5	ABC Wld News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	V "A Bright New Day"		Dancing With the Stars		the forgotten
	7	7	7 ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	So You Think You Can Dance Fourteen dancers perform.				Wife Swap
	11	11	11 CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	Being Erica (N) (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	2	2	2 CBC-F	Pyramide (SC)	La force	Virginie (SC)	La Facture	Providence (HDTV) (N) (SC)		Aveux (HDTV) (N) (SC)		Le Téléjournal
	32	32	32 CBS	WBZ News (N)	Evening News	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	NCIS "Power Down" (N)		NCIS: Los Angeles (N)		The Good Wife
	69	69	69 CFTM	TVA nouvelles	Le Cercle (SC)	Les Gags	Occupation	Caméra café	Taxi 0-22 (SC)	La Promesse (HDTV) (N) (SC)		TVA nouvelles
	6	6	6 CIHF	Entertainment	ET Canada	The Good Wife (N)		NCIS "Power Down" (N)		NCIS: Los Angeles (N)		News Final (N)
	9	9	9 CJCH	etalk	Hollywood	Law & Order: SVU		V "A Bright New Day"		Dancing With the Stars		CTV News
	10	10	10 ELTV	(6) EastLink Television				Podium TV		Community Matters		
	36	36	36 FOX	Seinfeld	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	So You Think You Can Dance Fourteen dancers perform.				Fox First
	12	12	12 NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	Madagascar	The Biggest Loser (N)			Jay Leno Show
	29	29	29 NW	(6) Power & Politics		Connect Today's biggest stories. (N)				CBC News: The National		fifth estate
	4	4	4 PBS-B	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Greater Boston	La Plaza-Maria	Nova (N) (DVS)		Frontline (N) (DVS)		Frontline
	35	35	35 PBS-D	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Business Rpt.	Worldfocus	Nova (N) (DVS)		Waterfront		Frontline (N)
	68	68	68 TQS	Guerre clans	Wipe Out	Bienvenue	Rire et délire	Les Anges millionnaires		Pratique privée (N) (SC)		Wipe Out
news	23	96	96 BNN	Business News	Headline	Market Call Tonight		After Hours	Market Call	Squeeze Play		Business News
	18	18	18 CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Cooper 360
sports	54	54	54 GOLF	Golf Central	Top 10	Spirit of Golf	Inside PGA	Big Break Disney Golf (HDTV)		Big Break Disney Golf (HDTV)		Big Break
	52	52	52 RSE	Connected W-Prime Time		Overtime	NHL Hockey Toronto Maple Leafs at Ottawa Senators. (HDTV) (Live)					Sportsnet Con.
	55	55	55 SCOR	After Wrestling	Covers Experts	Cabby Unlimit	Score Today	Court Surfing NBA news, scores and highlights.				
	45	45	45 SPD	Unique Whips		Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Monster Jam (HDTV)		Super Bikes!	Test Ride	Jacked!
	53	53	53 TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	That's Hockey!	Over the Bolts	30 for 30 (HDTV)		NBA Basketball: Raptors at Nuggets		
family	43	43	43 FAM	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Sonny Chance	Zack & Cody	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School
	44	44	44 TOON	Jimmy Two	Johnny Test	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad
	26	26	26 TREE	Wonder Pets	3rd and Bird	Backyardigans	Nght Grdn	Waybuloo	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Babar
	27	27	27 YTV	iCarly	iCarly	Drake & Josh	To Be Indie	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz
cable variety	16	16	16 A&E	The First 48 (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Parking Wars
	70	70	70 APTN	APTN National News (N)		Fish Out of	Mixed Blessing	Cashing In	Rabbit Fall	First Nation	Moose TV	Rez Rides
	50	50	50 BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live				Honey ★★ (2003, Drama) Jessica Alba, Mekhi Phifer.				Monica: Still
	37	37	37 BRVO	Wind at My Back		SABIAN: The Cymbal Makers		Live at the Rehearsal Hall		Glenn Gould: Hereafter (2005)		
	25	25	25 CMT	Star Crossed	Project Mom	Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.
	49	49	49 COM	Just for Laughs		Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Jeff Dunham
	153	153	153 COURT	Killer Next Door		The Investigators		Cops Uncut	Dumb Criminal	Killer Forensics		Investigators
	38	38	38 DISC	Destroyed	Destroyed	Daily Planet (N)		How It's Made	How It's Made	Destroyed	Destroyed	Time Warp (N)
	34	48	48 HGTV	Extreme Makeover: Home		House Hunters	Property Virgin	HGTV's Top 10	Design Inc.	Pure Design	Genevieve	House Hunters
	46	46	46 HIST	Ultimate Engineering		Ancient Discoveries		Cities of the Underworld		Cities of the Underworld		Engineering
	17	17	17 MM	disBAND	Love Court	One Tree Hill "Pilot"		Love Court	Video on Trial	disBAND	Video on Trial	MuchNew
	19	19	19 MMM	mmtop10.ca		The Daily Fix		Ranked!		I Want to Work for Diddy		Entourage
	201	201	201 M1	(6:10) The Visitor		Never Back Down ★ (2008, Action) Djimon Hounsou.				Twilight ★★ (2008, Romance)		
	48	23	23 OLN	Mantracker		Ghost Hunters International		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Survivorman		Ghost Hunters
	51	51	51 PEACH	The Office	Name Is Earl	Family Guy	Family Guy	House-Payne	House-Payne	Law & Order: SVU		Men in Black
	206	206	206 PIX	(6:15) Hollow Man		(8:15) The Hanging Garden ★★★ (1997, Drama)				Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (1998)		
	67	67	67 RDI	RDI monde	RDI économie	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie
	39	39	39 SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	The Outer Limits		Disaster Zone: Volcano in New York (2006, Action)				Bones
	40	40	40 SLICE	Skin Deep	Skin Deep	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Bulging Brides
	47	47	47 SPACE	Stargate SG-1		Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Medium (HDTV) (N)		Fringe
	14	14	14 SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		UFC Unleashed		UFC Unleashed (N)		Super Dave	Ultimate Knockouts 7 (HDTV)	
	57	98	98 STAR	etalk	TMZ (N)	etalk	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		Dr. Oz Show
	21	21	21 TLC	Say Yes-Dress	Say Yes-Dress	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Table for 12	Table for 12	18 Kids-Count	18 Kids-Count	Little Couple
	56	34	34 TROP	Prod. Parker	Prod. Parker	'70s Show	'70s Show	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	Switch	Family Guy
	20	20	20 TV5	Que.-champion	Journal de Fr2	Zoom animal		Pékin express				Avenirs
	28	28	28 V	Mysterious Ways		Murder, She Wrote		Hallelujah!	Dinnerladies	Quantum Leap (Part 1 of 2)		Unscripted (N)
	60	97	97 VIVA	Da Vinci's Inquest		Cold Case "Glued"		Missing "Domestic Bliss"		The Closer		Cold Case
	22	22	22 W	House-Sell	Confidential	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Grocery Bag	Beauty	Style by Jury	Good Naked
	251	251	251 WGN	WGN Evening News		Two/Half Men	Family Guy	90210 (HDTV) (N)		Melrose Place (N)		Basketball

critics'corner

The Good Wife
Alicia (Julianna Margulies) is caught off guard when Peter (Chris Noth) needs her to testify on his behalf in his appeals process, just as she is preparing to defend a scientist accused of arson in the new episode "Unprepared." 8 PM on CIHF; 11 PM on CBS



Being Erica
Erica (Erin Karpluk) is unimpressed to discover that Kai (Sebastian Pigott) is a case-study volunteer for the sex book she's working on. A trip back in time to see her deceased brother, Leo (Devon Bostick), also leaves her disillusioned when she sees a different side of him. She returns ready to confront her feelings for Kai in the new episode "A River Runs Through It ... It Being Egypt." 9 PM on CBC

MuchNewsWeekly
Whether you're a teenager eagerly anticipating the new "Twilight" movie or a parent wondering what all the fuss is about, this new episode has all the inside info you need on "New Moon," including interviews with the cast, an introduction to new characters, behind-the-scenes footage and tips on achieving the "Twilight" look. There's also an insider's take on how this vampire book and movie series became such a hot property. 11 PM on MM

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From bibs to bras
Heidi Klum isn't letting the recent birth of her fourth child stop her from getting back to work. The supermodel mom will be hosting the Victoria's Secret lingerie show, according to Page Six. METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity Buzz

Speidi-Roker showdown on hold

AS MINUTE SIXTEEN APPROACHES Spencer Pratt and Heidi Montag never got their rematch with the Today show's Al Roker, usmagazine.com reports.

The pair were expected on the NBC morning talk show Monday morning to promote their new book, How to Be Famous: Our Guide to Looking the Part, Playing the Press, and Becoming a Tabloid Fixture.

"Due to a change in the show's schedule, we had to cancel the interview with Spencer and Heidi Pratt," a Today show rep tells usmagazine.com.

When the pair appeared on the popular show this past June to promote their appearance on the reality show I'm A Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here. Montag said Roker made her cry with his harsh line of questioning. He also took Pratt to task, telling him that people think he acts like a "jerk."

After their awkward chat, Roker warmed up his Twitter page to continue criticizing the pair.

"Heidi and Spencer are an interesting couple. famous for...being infamous," he Twittered. "Bad and vacuous behavior. I think we're at minute 11 of their 15."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

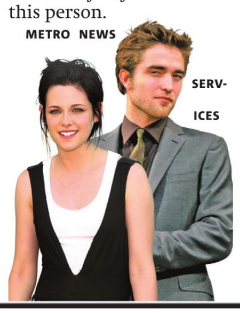


Yes, Twilight stars are an item dishes director

THE SOUND OF A MILLION TWIHEARTS BREAKING In an interview with Time, Twilight director Catherine Hardwicke commented on the rumored relationship between stars Kristen Stewart and Rob Pattinson — a subject the young actors have refused to speak about publicly, ew.com reports.

"In terms of what Kristen told me directly, it didn't happen on the first movie," said Hardwick. "I think it took a long time for Kristen to realize, O.K., I've got to give this a go and really try to be with this person.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Celebrity tweets

Kathy Griffin gives herself a little extra celebration, Ricky Martin has an incredible tolerance for toddler tinkling, and Perez Hilton suffers for his art.

• @officialkathyg
I admit it. I had a "secret cake" 4 my bday that I just finished. Yeah, 1 cake 4 friends and another 1 stored in the fridge 4 me. SUCK IT!

• @ricky_martin
the sound of the piano fills the house.played by minifingers.i wonder if my son is a pianist hehe

• @Perez Hilton
The price of glamour: glitter is EVERYWHERE now! But it was so worth it!

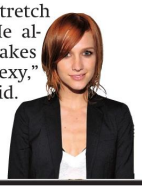
METRO WORLD NEWS



Hubby loves my curves: Simpson

FROM THE TOO MUCH INFORMATION FILES Ashlee Simpson says husband Pete Wentz loves her stretch marks, femalefirst.co.uk reports. "Pete isn't worried about stretch marks. He always makes me feel sexy," she said.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Peet ponders her own mortality

ANOTHER HOLLYWOOD SAG STORY Amanda Peet admits that she's powerless to stop the march of time. "It's not really working," she tells Parade magazine about her attempts to thwart the aging process.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Winehouse a real 'doll'

PLASTIC SURGERY REHAB? Amy Winehouse's new obsession with plastic surgery shows no signs of abating, sources tell the Sun. And she's reportedly already chosen what to augment next. "Everyone tells her there's nothing wrong with her nose, but Amy does nothing by halves," a source says.

"Since changing her boobs Amy has been scrutinizing her body. She loves all the compliments and wolf whistles she gets from her new figure. She's been sketching lots of drawings of herself and wants to bring out a doll for fans."

METRO WORLD NEWS





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Santa Clara Christmas 7 Nights 4-Star	from $1229 + taxes & fees $213

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+ taxes & fees $91
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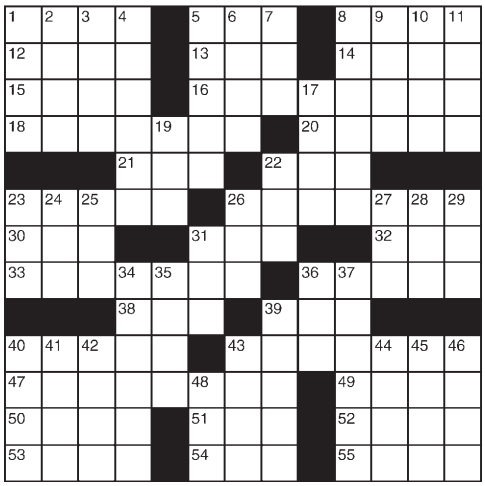
Wednesday Sunny 7° / 2°

Thursday Sunny 8°/ 1°

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Take Five



ACROSS

1 Automaker Ransom Eli —
5 Wager
8 Footnote abbr.
12 Source
13 "That feels so good!"
14 Protuberance
15 Albacore, e.g.
16 Genesis subject
18 Depot
20 Water trench
21 Coffee vessel
22 Part of TGIF
23 Invigorating
26 Speech
30 "— the ramparts ..."
31 Pair
32 Diary writer Anais
33 Round of applause, e.g.
36 "I give up!"
38 Hostel
39 Work with
40 Sends forth
43 Rapture
47 Holiday from work
49 Base runner's goal
50 Paradise
51 "CSI" evidence
52 Basin accessory
53 Cincinnati team
54 Ukr. or Lith., once
55 McNally partner

DOWN

1 Leftovers
2 Lummox
3 Lisbon lady
4 Rank in a hierarchy
5 Quiche Lorraine ingredient
6 Deserve
7 Commonest English word
8 Just know
9 Seethe
10 "American —"
11 Say it ain't so
17 Taj Mahal city
19 Annoy
22 To and — 23 Greet the villain
24 Gun the engine
25 401(k) alternative
26 Possess
27 Letterhead abbr.
28 Lubricate
29 Away from SSW
31 Heavy weight
34 Tennessee NFLers
35 "Meet Me — Louis"
36 NAFTA contributor
37 Situated below
39 Of an arm bone
40 Always
41 Put together
42 On the rocks
43 Awfully long time
44 Hawkeyes' home
45 Portent
46 Geeky sort
48 Egos' counterparts

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

		3	4	7		2		6
1		9	3					5
	4							
9		1			8			
		5				3		
			5			8		7
							6	
4					3	5		2
7		8		2	6	1		

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

S	P	A	R	■	D	A	B	■	O	F	F	S	
P	O	R	E	■	A	P	E	■	B	R	A	E	
E	L	A	N	■	F	R	E	E	R	E	I	N	
C	O	B	A	L	T	■	F	R	I	E	N	D	
■	■	■	M	E	N	U	■	R	E	B	■	■	
V	E	H	E	M	E	N	T	■	N	I	C	E	
I	T	O	■	A	S	I	A	N	■	R	U	N	
A	C	M	E	■	S	T	R	A	N	D	E	D	
■	■	■	E	A	R	■	E	D	G	E	■	■	■
A	L	F	R	E	D	■	I	S	S	U	E	R	
B	O	R	N	F	R	E	E	■	T	R	A	Y	
E	P	E	E	■	E	N	S	■	E	S	S	E	
L	E	E	R	■	W	E	T	■	D	A	Y	S	

7	1	8	3	6	2	9	4	5
2	6	9	7	4	5	8	1	3
4	3	5	8	9	1	2	7	6
3	9	1	4	2	8	6	5	7
8	2	4	5	7	6	1	3	9
5	7	6	9	1	3	4	2	8
6	5	7	1	8	4	3	9	2
9	4	2	6	3	7	5	8	1
1	8	3	2	5	9	7	6	4

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day



Cinnamon-mustard Chicken with Sweet Potatoes and Peppers

INGREDIENTS:

2 tbsp (25 ml) wholegrain mustard
2 tsp (10 ml) ground cinnamon
1 cup (250 ml) apple juice
8 skinless, boneless chicken thighs
4 sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into chunky wedges
4 onions, quartered
2 red peppers, quartered lengthwise
2 yellow peppers, quartered lengthwise
2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil

METHOD:

1. Preheat oven to 460°F (240°C). Mix mustard, cinnamon and apple juice in large ovenproof dish or roasting pan. Add chicken, turning pieces over to coat in apple dressing. Set aside.
2. Put sweet potato wedges in large pot. Pour in boiling water to cover and boil 5 minutes.
3. Drain sweet potatoes, then add to chicken with onions and peppers. Turn all vegetables in dressing to coat evenly, then turn chicken thighs once more and leave them skinned side up.
4. Season ingredients to taste and drizzle over oil. Roast 20 minutes or until chicken and vegetables are cooked and well browned. Test chicken by piercing thickest part with point of knife; juices should run clear, not pink. Serve.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Try to be a bit more secretive, especially if you are working on something that requires the surprise to be successful.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Stop worrying that you are not doing enough in the world. You're doing plenty. Today's Mercury-Saturn link indicates that success will be yours.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You seem to have the knack of making a little go a long way, and that applies to your emotions as well as to your money.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Today's cosmic picture will help you wield the axe and cut back on the things in your life that are no longer important.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
What you are being asked to do may seem boring but if you do it well the rewards will be worth the effort.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
There is rather a lot going on behind the scenes at the moment, so don't make any plans because they are sure to change over the next few days.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
There is no point trying to force a confrontation with someone you don't get along with today.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
You may think the worst is going to happen but you should know by now that is precisely the sort of attitude that encourages bad things to occur.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
A Mercury-Saturn link means your efforts will pay off in some way over the next 24 hours. That applies to all areas of your life, especially to friendships.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
You may not much enjoy what happens today but if you accept it as part of life's rich tapestry it won't seem so bad.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Most of the time you are pretty easygoing but today you will want everything to be perfect, and if it isn't then those you deem responsible will pay.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Aim to keep things simple today, because the more complicated you allow your life to get the more likely it is you will make a mistake.

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This day in history

1493: Christopher Columbus lands on Puerto Rico.
1558: Elizabethan era begins: Queen Mary I of England dies and is succeeded by her half-sister Elizabeth I of England.
1869: In Egypt, the Suez Canal, linking the Mediterranean Sea with the Red Sea, is inaugurated in an elaborate ceremony.
1876: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's patriotic Slavonic March is given its première performance in Moscow, to a warm reception by the Russian people.
2004: Kmart Corp. announces it is buying Sears, Roebuck and Co. for US $11 billion and naming the newly merged company Sears Holdings Corporation.

TAKE A BREAK FROM WORK

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+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $267

Samana
Gran Bahia Principe Cayacoa • 4★
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